



## ARE FATHERS FAILING?

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## NEW TEETH FOR OLD

Dr Thomas Stuttford  
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APPOINTMENTS  
32-PAGE SECTION

Shift of mood gives Government best figures for four years as Blair's personal rating falls

# Labour poll lead slashed by the Tories

By PETER RIDDELL

THE general election came alive for the first time last night as an opinion poll for *The Times* showed that the Conservatives have started to make big inroads into Labour's commanding lead.

The MORI poll, taken on Tuesday, puts the Tories on 34 per cent, up six points since last week, while Labour is down by a similar amount to 49 per cent. The Liberal Democrats are up a point at 12 per cent. Tony Blair's rating as the most capable Prime Minister has also dropped sharply over the past week.

The real significance of these figures is less the sharp fluctuations in the figures over the past week, or the narrowing in the Labour lead from 27 to 15 points, than the evidence that the Tory rating is at last climbing out of the narrow band where it has been for 18 months.

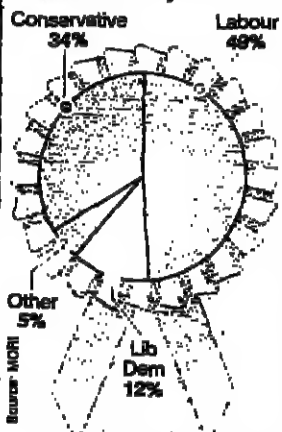
The Tories have been stuck around 30 per cent, plus or minus a couple of points, and 34 per cent is the party's highest figure in a MORI poll for more than four years. Labour is still only at the lower end of its recent poll ratings and remains strong favourite to win a clear Commons majority.

All the parties have been waiting — whether eagerly or nervously — for some sign of a real shift in the polls to change the mood after the apparent stalemate of the first three weeks of the campaign. Until now, only one pollster has shown any real movement.

If the Tory advance is sustained over the next few days, there will be pressure on Labour to modify its safety-first style of campaigning and take more risks. By contrast, Tory morale will be boosted after all the distractions caused by the recurrent stories about "sleaze" and the Neil Hamilton affair. The latest poll was taken after Martin Bell made his dramatic entrance into the Tatton contest as an anti-corruption candidate.

Nevertheless, Labour is still

Q How do you intend to vote in the general election on May 1?



in a much stronger position with a bigger lead than during any recent general election campaign. There is no precedent for the Tories to reverse the huge gap that still exists between them and Labour before polling day.

The poll, however, suggests that Labour's shifts and alleged U-turns in the presentation of privatisation and union policy over the past few days have had an impact — as have the stepped-up attacks by John Major and Michael Heseltine. They have not only helped to

### ELECTION '97

6 The Saatchis will have to try harder if they want to frighten voters without reminding them of the record of Tory years

Anatole Kaletsky, page 9

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raise the Tory rating, but also made some people less sure of how they intend to vote. The proportion of people saying that they may change their minds has risen from 25 to 28 per cent over the past week, which is higher than during past campaigns. But the number certain to vote is lower than at the same stage of past campaigns.

The number of people who think Mr Blair would be the most capable Prime Minister has fallen from 46 to 35 per cent — with his appeal declining most among men and among 18 to 34-year-olds. This has only partly benefited John Major, now regarded as most capable to be Prime Minister by 27 per cent, compared with 22 per cent a week ago. As significant has been a rise in don't knows from 18 to 24 per cent. Nevertheless, a majority of the public still believes that Labour is ready to form the next government and that Mr Blair is ready to be Prime Minister.

The Tory upturn is confirmed by other questions asking which party is best on the issues which people regard as the most important in deciding their votes. While Labour is well ahead on the issues of most concern — health, education and unemployment — the Tories have improved their position on management of the economy and taxation.

While Labour has been emphasising broken promises over tax made at the last election, the Tories have been concentrating on more recent tax cuts and improvements in living standards. Senior ministers will this morning seek to highlight the latest unemployment figures.

MORI interviewed 1,114 adults at 83 sampling points across Britain on Tuesday, April 8. Voting intention figures exclude those who say they would not vote (8 per cent), those who say they are undecided (12 per cent) and those who refuse to say (4 per cent).



Melissa Bell, the devoted press agent, yesterday: "Dad would make a great MP"

## New rival for Hamilton

By RUSSELL JENKINS AND CAROL MIDDLEY

A SENIOR Tatton Conservative is on the verge of standing as an independent Tory against Neil Hamilton. Derek Squirrel, deputy mayor of Knutsford, is said to be considering his position and an announcement is possible on Saturday.

The move came as the anti-sleaze candidate Martin Bell, revealed his secret weapon: his 21-year-old daughter, Melissa, who is acting as his press officer. Miss Bell, the elder of two daughters, is articulate, bilingual and utterly photogenic. She is also devoted to her father, who would

make a "great MP" — not beholden to some party whip. Mr Squirrel, a local businessman who has been a member of the Tatton Conservative Association for eight years, is understood to be under pressure from friends to enter the lists. Asked whether he intended to stand, he replied: "The dust has not settled yet. I have had a lot of telephone calls."

Other rebels want a high-profile Conservative — perhaps a seatless former MP — to come forward. That, they believe, might prompt Mr Hamilton to stand down.



## Middle Britain is hit hardest by changes in the tax system

By ALASDAIR MURRAY AND JILL SHERMAN

TAX changes since 1992 are costing the average household £7 a week, an independent study concluded yesterday.

The Institute for Fiscal Studies, the economic research group, said those earning between £15,000 and £20,000 a year and the "traditional" single-earning family had been among the biggest losers from the tax rises.

Low income families have also suffered heavily from the increases, which include the rise in National Insurance contributions, the introduction of VAT on fuel and cuts in mortgage interest rate relief.

The IFS said taxes have increased by a total of £11.5 billion since the last election with the tax burden rising from 34.5 per cent of national income to 36.25 per cent — although taxes remain lower than in most European countries.

The data is based on a comparison of the tax system operating in 1992 with the new tax regime introduced this month, disregarding rises in income. The IFS has calculated how much people are paying in tax now against how much they would be paying if the Chancellor had made no tax changes, except to take account of inflation, in every Budget since 1992.

The report added intensity to exchanges between Labour and the Tories over tax on the anniversary of the last general election. Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, said Mr Major had been telling "a lie" when he claimed the tax burden was unchanged. "From the party that claims to stand up for the family, families with children have been

hardest hit by the changes in taxation," he said.

Kenneth Clarke said the IFS report confirmed "the substantial rise in living standards" under the Government since the last election. "It argues that Labour's planned windfall tax — the key point in their July Budget — would be unfair to consumers," the Chancellor said.

The report found that couples on one salary with children are £12.70 a week worse off — paying around 3.7 per cent extra of their total income in taxes.

A couple with two children earning between £15,028 and £17,363 a year are £6.50 a week worse off now than in 1992, a loss of around 3.1 per cent of their total income. Couples earning less than £9,516 have also been hit hard, paying 3.3 per cent — or £2.80 a week — more of their income as tax now than in 1992.

Middle Britain has suffered because of changes to married couples' allowances and mortgage interest relief, whilst the lowest income groups have been hit by VAT on fuel and tobacco.

Pensioners have suffered least as they have not been hit by increases in National Insurance contributions or cuts in mortgage interest relief. Single pensioners are paying 80p more in tax a week, whilst couples are paying £2.40 more now than in 1992 — around 1.1 per cent of their total income.

But the IFS added that incomes have risen since the last election — although not at levels seen in the 1980s.

The average income for a married couple with two child

Continued on page 2, col 1

## Canvassing MP is attacked

A man approached Jerry Hayes, 43, the Tory MP, who was canvassing in his Harlow, Essex, constituency, swore at him and punched him on the jaw before running off. Mr Hayes, who was sent home after hospital treatment, said: "This has never happened to me before in Harlow."

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## Golfer repeats the hole-in-one magic

By ADAM FRESCO

TWO women golfers who scored a hole in one at the same hole within seconds of each other were celebrating another success last night.

Suzi Toft, of Trentham, near Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, and Jill Dyke, of Lichfield, both scored a hole in one with their shots last week. Television crews turned up at Trentham golf course yesterday to watch the pair play and were astounded when one of them scored a hole in one again on the same hole.

Standing on the 116-yard par three fourth hole, with ITN cameras whirling, Mrs Toft, 72, took a five wood, hit the ball onto the green and watched in amazement as it dropped into the hole.

Mrs Toft said: "It really is absolutely out of this world." Mrs Dyke, 60, then sent her tee shot to within a foot of the hole. She said: "It was wonderful, we were euphoric." Paul Austin, director of sports for



Toft said the shot was totally out of this world

## National Trust to ban deer hunts

By MICHAEL HORNSBY  
COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

THE National Trust is set to ban deer hunting on its land today in a move that will end a tradition going back more than half a century after a damning scientific report concluded that the sport is unacceptable.

A recommendation that deer-hunting licences should not be renewed on expiring at the end of this month, when the current season finishes, is considered almost certain to be endorsed at a meeting of the trust's 52-member governing council.

The two-year study compiled by Patrick Bateson, Professor of Ethology at Cambridge University, found that hunted deer experienced extreme physical stress similar to that suffered by animals severely injured in accidents.

Cruelty report, page 6

## Germans welcome fans with beer

By ADRIAN LEE

MANCHESTER UNITED fans, who converged on Dortmund for their team's Champions League semi-final last night, enjoyed a six-hour "festival" in the sun, as part of a massive, but low key security operation by German police. Some officers wore United scarves.

In the city's central Alter Markt, some 3,000 supporters were able to drink freely before the game. The match was shown live on a giant video screen for those unable to get tickets.

Rival fans mingled good humouredly and there was little trouble from the British supporters.

One United fan was taken to hospital after he was apparently struck on the head with a bottle and there were minor skirmishes before the game. Last night's match was a 48,000 sell-out, with 3,800 United fans having bought tickets officially.

porters, though 25 German fans were arrested before the game for fighting among themselves.

Police handed out leaflets in English welcoming the United fans to Dortmund. Organisers said the festival ensured most of the supporters were in one area of Dortmund before the game and they defended the ready availability of strong lager, at £2 a pint, which left many fans clearly the worse for wear well before kick-off.

"If we don't serve beer, fans will just buy it from the shops," said Gerd Kolbe, a council spokesman. Police said they expected up to 1,000 ticketless United fans, but were confident there would be no repeat of the violence which marred the team's visit to Portugal in the previous round.

Last night's match was a 48,000 sell-out, with 3,800 United fans having bought tickets officially.

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# Stoppard trial blunder starts fingerprint inquiry

By RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

A MISTAKE in the identification of a fingerprint caused the collapse of the trial yesterday of a man accused of burglary at the home of the medical broadcaster Miriam Stoppard. An investigation will now check all other cases which involved the same fingerprint expert.

The accused man, Andrew Chiori, 21, a student, had served two months on remand awaiting trial for allegedly stealing £41,000

in 1995 from the Mayfair home of Mrs Stoppard, who is also an author and agony aunt. Simon Harris, a fingerprint expert with the Metropolitan Police, had said that he was "in no doubt" that Chiori was responsible for the break-in, after examining a print found on a wall.

However, other experts hired by Chiori's lawyers found that the conclusion was "fatally flawed", and the Metropolitan Police have now called in officers from South Yorkshire to carry out an inquiry into how the error was made.

Other evidence presented by Mr Harris will be checked in the inquiry headed by Chief Superintendent David Foss, of South Yorkshire Police.

Last night the Metropolitan Police referred all inquiries in the case to the South Yorkshire force, which said that it could not give a detailed comment as Mr Foss was not available.

Mr Chiori, from Woolwich, southeast London, was formally acquitted at Southwark Crown Court yesterday after Peter Grieves-Smith, for the prosecution,

said that Mr Harris had made an error of judgement.

Mr Chiori, who pleaded not guilty, was not in court for the acquittal, which took place before his trial opened.

Mr Grieves-Smith said that Mr Harris had made an error of judgement. He told Judge Gerald Butler, QC: "It was an error of judgement by Mr Harris to come to the conclusion that he did. I am asked to apologise for the error that he made."

"The work he has done in the past is being double-checked, but

we do not anticipate any further problems."

The court was told that fingerprint experts present their reports on a sliding scale of reliability, using the categories "in no doubt", "highly probable", "probable" and "possible".

Mr Harris had put the Chiori identification in the top category. The judge said that he rarely saw the words "in no doubt", and added: "There is a public interest, a proper public interest, in this particular case as Chiori spent some time in prison awaiting trial."

Frank Kearney, solicitor for Chiori, said last night that he had challenged the fingerprint evidence of Mr Harris in February and had demanded a review. He said that the print was not his client's, and there was no other evidence against him.

The Crown Prosecution Service wrote to him last month to say that they would be offering no evidence against Mr Chiori. Mr Kearney said: "I requested a full explanation and I am still awaiting one."

He said that yesterday's move highlighted the need for all forensic

evidence to be challenged. He would be advising Mr Chiori to take civil action to claim damages for the two months he spent in prison on remand.

Fingerprints have been viewed as a reliable way of proving guilt. Sixteen different characteristics per print have been required as proof, but police are now suggesting that that number need not always be obtained.

The Association of Chief Police Officers is suggesting that the opinion of a fingerprint expert should be sufficient.

## US legal firms snap up City offices

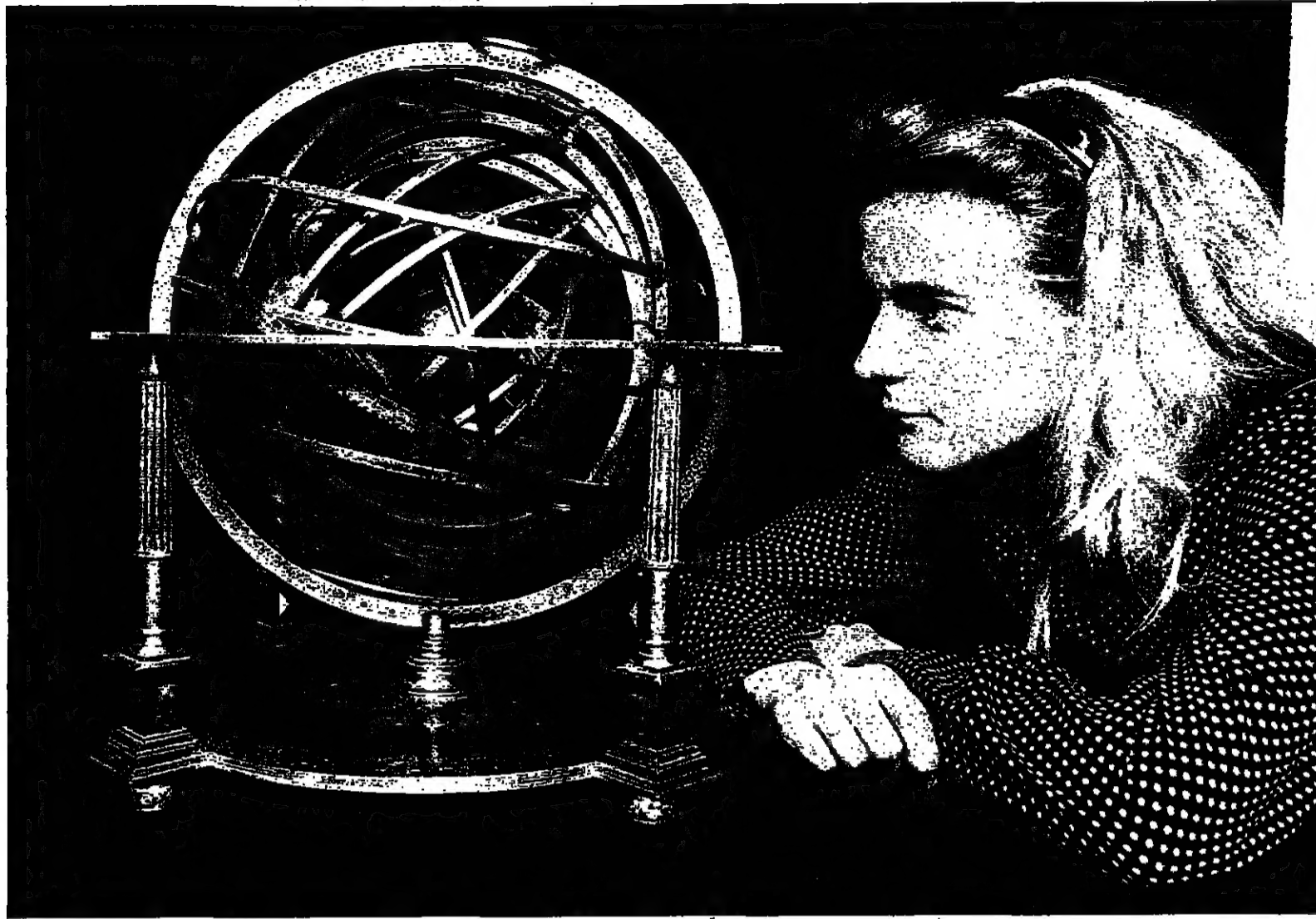
By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

AMERICAN law firms are buying huge chunks of the City in a new competition drive with the big London law firms. A survey by Chesterton, the property consultants, has found that American lawyers have taken or are looking for an extra 137,000 sq ft — three acres — of office space in the City. American law firms now occupy 180,000 sq ft.

The expansion is likely to create a fresh boost to City lawyers' salaries as recruitment competition heats up. Judged against the yardstick that American law firms require 300 to 400 sq ft per lawyer, the survey suggests that US law firms are preparing to recruit more than 340 lawyers to fill their new office blocks. Some will come from the firms' headquarters in the States. But many will be poached from City law firms.

Mark Bourne, of Chesterton, said: "UK lawyers will need to look to their laurels. Our research proves that the threat to their business from across the Atlantic is both real and growing." He said American law firms have changed their business strategy. "No longer are they content just to service US corporations in the UK — they are now recruiting British lawyers and seeking to compete aggressively with UK firms for a wide range of legal business."

US law firms are already creating a superleague of highly-paid lawyers. Last year one US law firm advertised a salary package of between £200,000 to £700,000 a year for three partners.



THIS rare sphere, representing the Earth as the centre of the universe, was sold in London yesterday for £771,500, three times more than expected (Tim Jones writes). Victoria Lynne, a Christie's expert, took the opportunity of a further look before it returned to private hands.

## Old view of the universe sells for an astronomical price

At auction, it took just four minutes to change hands between two collectors in telephone bidding. The previously unrecorded piece, made for Sultan Murad III of Turkey in 1579, was expected to fetch between £200,000 and £300,000. The multi-banded representation of the motions of celestial bodies around the Earth includes a band for the astrological 12 Houses of Heaven, with a description of the good or bad fortune to be expected under each house. Just 16ins high, it is the only such sphere known to have been in private hands. Jeremy Collins,

another Christie's specialist said: "Quite simply, this is probably the most important practical instrument of its day. It represents the highest form of art in the late Renaissance period."

The gilt-brass Ptolemaic armillary sphere was probably made by craftsmen from

the late 16th century, the very best instrument makers were the highest paid artisans in the world, and the things they made were the ultimate in the high technology of the age. The instruments indicated the status of the owner as someone who understood modern science."

Ptolemy, the astronomer and geographer Calaudius Ptolemaeus, was at Alexandria between AD 127 and 151. He said the Earth was the fixed centre of the universe.

## Five held in Dublin over Guerin murder

Irish police arrested five people yesterday in connection with the murder of the crime journalist Veronica Guerin, who was shot dead in a Dublin street last June. One of those detained was Patrick Holland, who was arrested with a female companion at Dun Laoghaire as they left the ferry from Holyhead at 6am.

Mr Holland, 58, who moved to England in the autumn, has publicly denied killing Ms Guerin, 36, who won numerous awards for her investigations into Dublin's drug barons. Mr Holland was detained under the Irish Republic's Offences Against the State Act, which allows police to hold him for 48 hours for questioning. He was taken to Lucan police station in Dublin, which is the headquarters of the investigation into the murder of Ms Guerin. Three other men were arrested in the Irish capital.

## M5 work for two years

The AA is predicting long delays this summer at the Avonmouth Bridge on the M5 near Bristol after contractors said it would take until at least February 1999 for roadworks to be completed. Numerous hidden problems were found at the bridge, which is being strengthened to take heavier lorries that will be allowed on roads from January 1999. The work could double the original £50 million estimated cost and in peak summer lead to repeats of the 31-mile traffic jams which clogged the approach to the bridge on Easter Monday. Work had been scheduled to finish in May 1998.

## New Aids treatment

A new approach to treating Aids is showing considerable promise, scientists at Glaxo-Wellcome have announced. In laboratory tests they have been able to prevent the entry of the HIV virus into cells. Studies have shown that HIV infects immune system cells which have molecules called CD4 on their surface. But recently scientists identified two further "co-factors" that are also necessary for infection. These materials are called chemokines, and operate by locking on to receptors — hooks — on the surface of the killer cells. The new method, published in *Science*, uses a modified form of a natural chemokine to block these receptors.

## Soldier's death payout

The widow and four children of a soldier who died when an armoured reconnaissance vehicle overturned while on exercise in the former West Germany have agreed to accept £260,000 compensation. The High Court was told. Paul Fleming, 30, a lance corporal in the First King's Unit, was in command of the Fox vehicle when it went out of control on July 13, 1989. Glenis Fleming sued the Ministry of Defence, claiming that Fox vehicles had been in 189 accidents between 1970 and 1989, with 11 fatalities, and should have been withdrawn. The MoD admitted liability.

## Marchioness damages

A saxophonist has accepted £150,000 after her career was wrecked by the Marchioness disaster in August 1989. Jo Wells, 38, right, was aboard the pleasure cruiser when it collided with the sand dredger *Bowbelle*. Fifty-one people were killed. Ms Wells, who had toured with the band Tears for Fears, has been unable to work since because of severe depression.



## Billie-Jo inquest opens

Billie-Jo Jenkins died from severe head injuries caused by numerous skull fractures, an inquest was told. The girl, 13, was killed in February at home in Hastings. Detective Superintendent Jeremy Paine, head of the murder inquiry, told the inquest that she had been struck repeatedly with a heavy instrument. The girl's legal guardian, Sion Jenkins, 39, has been charged with her murder and released on £250,000 bail. Her natural mother, Debbie Woods, travelled from her home in Essex to attend the ten-minute hearing in Hastings yesterday. The inquest was adjourned.

## Middle earners are hit hardest by tax changes

Continued from page 1

ren and a single earner has risen by £765 this Parliament compared with £2,035 in the period 1987 to 1992.

But Chris Giles of the IFS, said: "Income gains over the last 15 years have been skewed towards people with high income."

Incomes for the richest 10 per cent of households are 59 per cent higher than in 1979, whilst incomes for the poorest 10 per cent of society have risen by only 6 per cent compared with 15 years ago.

The IFS said that neither of the main parties' manifesto plans to reduce tax are likely to improve this position. The Conservatives say they will reduce the basic rate of tax to 20 per cent, which the IFS said would cost around £6 billion a year in lost tax revenue.

Labour, meanwhile, has said it will aim to introduce a 10 per cent starting rate "in the long term", which the IFS says will cost £9.5 billion if the 10 per cent rate replaced the existing 20 per cent band.

Liberal Democrat plans to increase allowances, raise the basic rate by 1 per cent and impose a new 50 per cent rate on taxable incomes of more than £100,000 would raise £2 billion, the IFS said. People with an annual income below £13,000 would be better off, while those on higher incomes would lose out. The 140,000 people who earn more than £100,000 would be worse off.

The IFS also issued a stern warning to both major parties that they are unlikely to meet their public spending targets during the next few years.

"The latest spending plans

are lower than at any time over the past three decades," the IFS said.

"None of the major parties seems to have a satisfactory response to the large gap between spending plans and public expectations."

Public spending is forecast to rise by an average of just 0.4 per cent over the next three years compared with an average of 1.9 per cent since 1979. The IFS is particularly critical of the target set for health service spending which is forecast to rise by an average of 0.6 per cent a year over the next three years, compared with an average increase of 3.1 per cent since the Conservatives came to power. It also warned that the government reserve is also predicted to fall leaving only limited flexibility within future spending plans.

Dr Carey, referring to debate over marriage in the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority report, says that he would want to add stronger points about marriage and family life.

## Carey wants schools to teach morals

By RUTH GLEDHILL

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, will emphasise today the importance of teaching moral values to children in school.

In an article in *The Times*, prior to an address to a conference at the Institute of Education at London University on values and the curriculum, Dr Carey says: "We want people who leave school to be good citizens and good neighbours, not just stuffed heads and effective contributors to the economy."

Dr Carey, referring to debate over marriage in the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority report, says that he would want to add stronger points about marriage and family life.

Teaching morality, page 20

## Catholic escapes death as gun jams

By NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A ROMAN Catholic man escaped being shot dead yesterday when a gun jammed as a suspected loyalist terrorist attempted to shoot him a second time.

Kieran Delaney, 23, was ambushed at 7.30am in the Newtownabbey area of north Belfast as he waited for a lift to work. The gunman, disguised as a postman, pulled a gun from his post bag and shot Mr Delaney in the neck. As he tried to fire again, his pistol jammed. He was then picked up by a car which was later found burnt out on the Rathcoole estate in the north of the city.

John Delaney said that his son had no political connections. "He did get a threatening letter about a year ago which said we are watching

you. I don't know why they picked Kieran out because he is not involved in anything. All he does is go to his work."

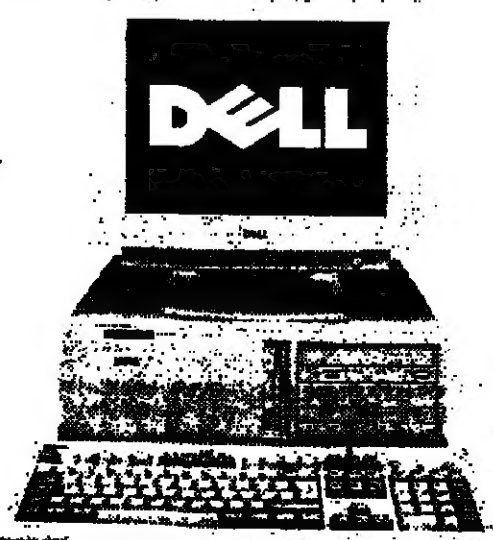
Mark Langhammer, an independent Labour councillor in Newtownabbey, said that the shooting bore the hallmarks of a loyalist attack. He said: "The route appeared to be planned, the getaway route was planned, the clothing disguise in place, and the lad had been targeted some time before. It seems to be a planned loyalist attack."

Mr Langhammer said that the shooting would raise questions about the loyalist ceasefire. "It does appear that that ceasefire is in something of a mess. My sources of information tell me that this man was wholly unconnected with any political party."

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# Absent fathers too busy to notice children growing up without them

By LIN JENKINS

MODERN fathers are neglecting their children by failing to share even the simplest domestic chores or help with homework.

A report published today says that a fifth of children questioned could not recall sharing an activity with their fathers during the previous week. Yet four fifths wanted to spend more time with them, compared with only 2 per cent who wanted more time with their mothers.

The MORI survey of 1,000 children aged 8 to 15 contradicts the stereotype of "new man" taking

**A fifth of children cannot recall doing anything with their father last week, says a MORI survey which contradicts the popular image of "new man"**

an equal role in bringing up children. However, most children still lived in a traditional family with two parents and retained strong links with their extended family.

Children wanted parents to exercise authority, give moral leadership and set boundaries on behaviour, such as imposing a time to come home, insisting

homework schedules were met and setting rules on smoking and drinking. *Jim Harkins*, director and chief executive of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, said most children enjoyed close and loving relationships with both parents.

"But, even in the 1990s, some fathers appear to be remote figures. We cannot say whether this is

a result of heavy workloads or other factors. But what is clear from the survey is that most of the children did want their dads to spend time with them."

Four out of ten children reported some form of social outing outside the home with fathers at least once a week, but all said they spent less time doing things with their fathers than with their mothers.

They were also less inclined to turn to their fathers with problems. Of those under 11, almost all would discuss personal matters with their mothers while just over half felt able to approach their fathers. Of those aged 11 to 15, only a third

would discuss a particular problem with their father while four out of five said they would consult their mothers.

Most thought good fathers should make them laugh, make and mend things around the house and not necessarily undertake the shopping and cooking. Good mothers, on the other hand, were required to be able to cook.

Many famous fathers were away from home yesterday — but mainly because they were spending the last remaining days of the school holidays with their children. Desmond Wilcox, the television producer and reporter whose career

has taken him away from his three children for long stretches of time, had just spent ten days with Emily, 19, Rebecca, 17, and Joshua, 15. He said the trick was to juggle work and family life: "I get such pleasure from them that I make them a priority, equal to and beyond work. When you are pressured, in whatever career field, you will wind up with a rather sterile sense of victory if you have lost touch with your children."

Gary Lineker, the footballer turned television pundit, whose son George, 5, is recovering from leukaemia, was unavailable yesterday as he was taking him and

his brothers Harry, 3, and Tobias, 1, to the cinema. His wife is expecting their fourth child in August. "He is very committed to his family and makes time for them," said his agent Jon Holmes.

Michael Parkinson, the broadcaster and journalist, who has three sons, said: "I think the fact that my wife and I have stayed together is the single most important factor in our children's happiness, more than anything else. I never thought about spending time with my sons."

"If you stop to think about it, it becomes a task and parenting is not a task, it's a joy."

## Teenagers raped tourist and threw her into canal

By RICHARD FORD

AN AUSTRIAN tourist on holiday in London was raped violently and repeatedly by eight teenage boys and then thrown naked into a canal, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

The 32-year-old woman, a mother of two, swam for her life after the racially motivated attack only hours after she arrived in London last September. She survived only because she separated her mind from her body as much as she could, the court heard.

The woman, from Vienna, went for a midnight walk near her hotel in King's Cross, but got lost. She met the eight youths, aged 14 to 17, who invited her to a party. She told them in halting English that it was not a good idea but walked with them towards the canal. She was unconcerned, because they were so young.

John Bevan, for the prosecution, said that when she reached Regent's Canal off York Way she was dragged 200 yards along the towpath and raped for 45 minutes. He said the attack had almost all the "worst features of multiple rape by multiple rapists". She was kicked, punched and subjected to a series of sexual indignities.

Seven of the teenagers admitted the rape but another, now aged 15, denies three charges of rape, indecent

assault and robbing the woman of a jacket and a belt. The youth cannot be named for legal reasons. At the time of the attack the oldest was 17, four were 16 and the others 14.

Mr Bevan said: "It may be she was naive, maybe she simply thought London was a safe place for a woman abroad at night. She was sadly mistaken."

He added: "She was approached and, as she thought, idly chatted to by a group of eight people she regarded as children." He told the court that during the attack she repeatedly heard the words "white bitch". The 14-year-old ringleader, who yesterday admitted rape, said to her: "Now, the party's going to begin."

Many, if not all, of the gang raped her more than once and the attack continued after she was held against a wall near the canal. Mr Bevan said the ordeal ended when she was asked whether she wanted to go for a swim. She said no.

"She was thrown into the canal. She survived. Perhaps it is a tribute to her toughness and good sense that she did, once she realised that resistance was hopeless and indeed dangerous."

She swam to safety on the other side of the canal and was able to attract the attention of a security guard, who tele-

phoned the police. Speaking through an interpreter, the woman told the court that after a day of shopping, sight-seeing and having dinner with friends she decided to go for a walk at about midnight to stretch her legs.

She had not been frightened when first approached by the youths because they were "friendly and nice" towards her. She said that as they dragged her along the canal bank she thought they were going to rob her. "Then they picked me up off the ground. Two picked me up by the arms and two by the legs. Four were holding me up and another group were tearing my clothes off me."

She said she was very frightened and realised what was going to happen. "I kept trying to think if there was any way I could get away, but there was no hope."

The woman told the jury that she was raped by each boy "several times", one after the other, and forced into other sexual acts while the others held her down.

She said she was asked if she could swim and said she could not, in the hope that they would throw her in the water. "They raped me a little more and they were pushing me towards the water at this point. They pushed me in."

The case continues.



A woven cap and multi-coloured sweater epitomised the Todd Oldham collection



A Lauren evening gown

### Oldham livens up New York

FROM HEATH BROWN IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK fashion week is renowned for practical, pared-down clothes. So it was a relief to come across a catwalk collection that crossed all the boundaries of good taste.

Todd Oldham banished grey and black in favour of colour that hit between the eyes. Leopard print clashed with Indian motifs; fake fur mixed with indigo denim and swirling sequins.

What a contrast with Ralph Lauren, whose smooth, sharp ready-to-wear collection at his Madison Avenue headquarters was inspired by New York's Art Deco architecture.

### Man jailed for hammer attack on family

By A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN was jailed for life yesterday for a hammer attack in which a woman died and three children were seriously injured.

Dale Mandley, 33, killed Phyllis Minney before setting on her daughter, Phyllis, 13, son Paul, 12, and their friend, Victoria Hatfield, 13, who was staying the night. She will never fully recover, Reading Crown Court was told.

The court was told that Mandley had driven to Wokingham, Berkshire, last July after his girlfriend Michelle, Mrs Minney's daughter, ended their relationship. After cutting the telephone wires to the house, Mandley went inside and chatted to Mrs Minney.

The children were reassured by their mother that Mandley had arrived at the house for a chat. Mrs Minney, 48, then went downstairs and was struck at least 17 times with the hammer.

Susan Reed, for the prosecution, said Mandley then turned his attention to the children. Victoria was struck repeatedly about the head.

Miss Reed said: "Phyllis [junior] ran to the bathroom and then her brother Paul came into the room. Mandley hit Paul on the head with the hammer."

Mandley admitted murdering Mrs Minney and three counts of grievous bodily harm with intent on the three children. Mr Justice Allott told him it was unlikely that he would ever be released.

### Net saves disabled Scrabble player

By TIM JONES

A DISABLED man triggered an international rescue yesterday after collapsing while playing Scrabble on the Internet. As he lay on the floor of his home in Didcot, Oxfordshire, John Elliott, 24, managed to tap out a message: "I have fallen and can't move. Please get help for me."

Before he was found five hours later, the hunt had involved Interpol and several police forces. But it was a freelance journalist, John Hawkins, who found Mr Elliott after getting his number from directory inquiries.

Mr Elliott, who has cerebral palsy, thought that he had been playing Scrabble with a woman in Canada when he collapsed, but it had been with a woman in Chicago. She read his message and sent out a group call to other Internet users, asking if they knew his name and address.

While police in America and Canada faxed Interpol, the woman called Gloucestershire police. They contacted Mr Elliott's Internet provider in the Isle of Man who gave them the addresses of John Elliotts in the area. As officers visited them, Mr Hawkins, with one call, found his man.

### Dutch halt £100m drugs-ring trial of millionaire Briton

FROM MARK FULLER IN THE HAGUE

THE trial of a 33-year-old Briton, alleged to have masterminded one of Europe's biggest drugs rings, was adjourned by a Dutch court yesterday after it was claimed that evidence had been obtained illegally.

A court in The Hague referred the case against the Liverpool millionaire businessman Curtis Warren back to the examining magistrate to clarify defence counsel claims that evidence had been collected and processed illegally in a joint operation by British and Dutch customs and police.

The six-month operation, codenamed Crayfish, resulted in the arrest in The Netherlands last October of Mr Warren, six other Britons and one Colombian, and the seizure of huge quantities of cocaine, heroin, ecstasy and hashish with a street value of about £100 million.

In a bizarre exposure of the lack of integrated European legislation on criminal intelligence activities, the defence claimed that raids carried out in The Netherlands were based on information gathered in Britain through illegal telephone-tapping. The court was told that British customs and police officers had denied

that the information came from an informant, electronic bugging or from a telephone company. But they have refused to identify the source, claiming public immunity. Dutch law, however, requires that the source of the information used in evidence be disclosed.

Irene de Vries, the presiding judge, said it was vital that the examining magistrate interview senior Dutch and British customs officials, otherwise the defence case would be seriously damaged. The cases against one other Briton, John Farrell, 34, from Manchester, and a Colombian were also adjourned. In a fourth case heard yesterday, the prosecution demanded a five-year prison sentence for William Fitzgerald, 55, from Liverpool. Mr Fitzgerald allegedly acted as the gang's security guard and was arrested in possession of weapons and drugs.

The eight defendants, four of whose cases will be heard today, have all been charged with being members of a criminal organisation involved in drug trafficking. Mr Warren has also been charged with leading a criminal organisation that imported 317 kg of cocaine from Venezuela.

### Wife 'took poisoned tea to help research'

By DAREH GREGORIAN

A MAN accused of trying to poison his wife with rat-killer was actually carrying out experiments on preventing strokes and acting with her consent, a court was told yesterday.

William Down was said to have become obsessed about his health and to have embarked on amateur research into the anticoagulant drug warfarin, found in rat poison.

His wife Linda, 50, has told Northampton Crown Court that she became suspicious after finding "green bits" in her early morning tea, which tasted odd.

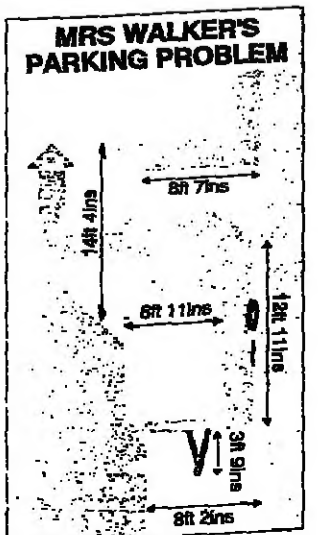
Stephen Crouch, for the defence, said Mrs Down had been given a safe dose of the poison with her knowledge. The drug turned the tea blue-green, Mr Crouch said, and "it is impossible to think anybody would be fooled. Tea is not by its nature blue."

He suggested that Mrs Down may have accused her husband of trying to poison her to force him into a better divorce settlement.

Mr Down, of Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire, denies attempting unlawfully to administer a poison. The case continues.

### Maths solves great caravan riddle

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR



MATHEMATICS has come to the aid of a woman stumped by a perennial problem for caravan-owners: how big a caravan can I fit in my parking space?

The worried owner, a Mrs K. Walker, already had a caravan 16ft 8in long, but fancied a bigger one. To reach the parking space behind her home the caravan had to be pushed up a drive by hand, around a corner past her house and around a second corner past the garage. How large could her new mobile home be, she asked Practical Caravan.

The magazine approached

Mensa without success, then turned to Napier University in Edinburgh. The letter landed on the desk of Judy Goldfinch, senior lecturer in mathematics. "It was a challenge," she said. "I know nothing about caravans, but I had to give it a try."

In *Mathematics Today* she produces her solution, and urges other mathematicians to tackle the problem. Treating the caravan as a rectangular box with two wheels and an A-frame at the front bearing a third small wheel, Dr Goldfinch worked out the equations governing the movement of the caravan

when it was given a small push at a given angle on the end of the A-frame.

She then used a spreadsheet on her computer, showing the positions of points around the perimeter of the caravan, to calculate the position after each push of one inch.

Dr Goldfinch proved what Mrs Walker already knew: that a 16ft 8in caravan could be manoeuvred into the space. But would a bigger one fit? The computer suggested that 18ft was the longest that could be parked there, assuming that it could be pushed accurately.

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Sculptor arrested after visitor to exhibition recognised relative's remains as part of a sculpture

# Doctors fear that 'body art' case will deter donors

By Stephen Farrell and Audrey Magee

DOCTORS voiced fears last night that the arrest of a sculptor suspected of stealing human remains would deter patients from donating their bodies for medical research.

Anthony-Noel Kelly, 41, of Clapham, southwest London, a nephew of the Duke of Norfolk and part-time tutor at the Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, was questioned by detectives from the Organised Crime Group. They had been alerted by Dr Laurence Martin, Her Majesty's Inspector of Anatomy.

Scotland Yard confirmed yesterday: "The investigation is into allegations of theft and the burying of bodies without consent. A search was carried out at an address in southwest London and at a venue in Kent where a number of body parts were found."

Paul O'Higgins, of the Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology at University College London Medical School, said the profession was shocked at the prospect of bodies being used for purposes other than intended. "There has to be concern that people will be less likely to donate bodies for medical research. The future of healthcare in this country is in some degree dependent on the adequate provision of

these parts. We are concerned to reassure the public how carefully we monitor things."

Controversy surrounding Mr Kelly, a former butcher and abattoir worker, began in January with his exhibit at the Contemporary Art Fair in Islington, north London: a silver-coated head and shoulders of an old man with part of the brain cut away, and a gold triptych of three sections of another elderly person. A relative is said to have recognised remains used in a sculpture.

Detectives searched Mr Kelly's home on April 2. The artist, who has not been charged, was released on bail until April 17. Yesterday he said: "At the moment I am just helping police with their inquiries, that is all I can say. I am not saying anything until I feel it is the right time to give my version."

Under the Anatomy Act 1984 it is a criminal offence to use body parts for any purpose other than medical research. Sentencing is at judges' discretion. Remains can be kept for up to three years, after which they must be given a proper burial or cremation.

Bodies can be left to art: the Department of Health said bodies may be bequeathed for artistic and other non-medical

purposes, but they had to be registered under the Anatomy Act at a medical school, as with other cadavers. Experts said they had never encountered such a donation.

The 1984 Act tightened up procedures under the 1832 Anatomy Act, which was passed three years after Burke and Hare murdered at least 15 people in Edinburgh and sold the bodies for dissection.

In January, in an interview with the *Independent on Sunday*, Mr Kelly admitted using human body parts acquired from medical schools and casting them in rubber and glass fibre to create the plaster heads. "To get them was a sweat, under cover of darkness. I had the police on me once because someone had tipped them off. I still had some body pieces I hadn't yet used and I had to destroy them," he said.

He also claimed to be respectful of his subject matter. "I am in awe of life and death. I have a tremendous respect for the human body." His studio, kept at low temperatures, is adorned with plaster "torsos" of elderly people hanging alongside gilded human "horns".

Anatomists last night said they were mystified as to how anyone could obtain remains under the strict procedures that are observed. Michael Hobbs, secretary of the London Anatomy Trust, said all donated bodies were allocated identification numbers. More than 250 are donated to London hospitals each year. They are released only to Home Office-licensed teachers of anatomy at licensed dissecting rooms and are kept in permanently manned premises with 24-hour closed circuit cameras, double-locked doors with electronic card entry to which only permitted staff and students carrying proof of identity are admitted. Medical artists studying human anatomy are granted access in some conditions.



Anthony-Noel Kelly has previously admitted using human body parts in his work: "To get them was a sweat, under cover of darkness"

## Fatal attraction of artists through the ages

By Alan Hamilton

ARTISTS through the ages have gone to the cadaver for inspiration and instruction. Still death rather than still life, drawn from the dissecting table rather than the dining table, has characterised the work of great painters since the days of the Renaissance.

Leonardo da Vinci studied the remains of paupers for his anatomical drawings, stunning in their graphic accuracy. Caravaggio, one of the early realists in the first years of the 17th century, was accused by his rivals, and by the church authorities, of using the body of a dead prostitute as a model for his *Death of the Virgin*. That he might have used the corpse of a common whore to study the precise shade of deathly pallor required for his painting of the mother of Christ was not the most appealing of concepts at the time.

But even before him, artists were studying the dead in the interests of accuracy. In the



The Anatomy Lesson, a Rembrandt masterpiece

16th century, both Holbein and Mantegna tackled the subject of the death of Christ, laid out as a corpse after being taken down from the cross, by referring to real cadavers.

The tradition is, in fact, far older. The British Museum is currently exhibiting mummy paintings from the Roman occupation of Egypt around the first century AD, in which representations of the de-

ceased, as though still living, decorate the coffin. There is some academic dispute as to whether the paintings were commissioned while their subjects were still alive, or whether an artist was hastily summoned to paint the newly departed before the embalmers got to work.

Rembrandt's masterpiece *The Anatomy Lesson* is really a group portrait of a famous physician of the day and his pupils, but there is a body on the table in front of them. The Dutchman would undoubtedly have studied the dead to get the detail right: anatomical study, usually of paupers or convicted criminals, was standard art training for centuries.

One of the outstanding pictures of death is Géricault's *The Raft of the Medusa*, hanging in the Louvre and so fragile that it cannot be moved. The portrayal of survivors of the wreck of a French frigate clinging to a raft, some already dead and others dying, is one of the most powerful images of early 19th-century European art, especially in the huge, grotesque hands.

Géricault made many visits to French hospitals to study lifeless limbs, and was so taken with their shapes that he executed a whole series of drawings of dead hands and feet.

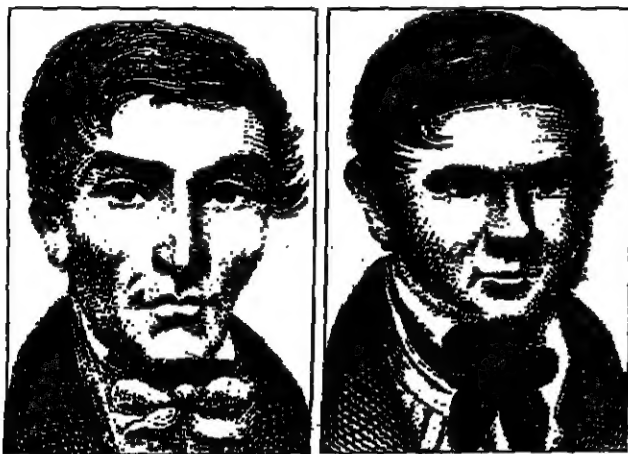
Nigel Llewellyn, senior lecturer in art history at the University of Sussex, who

masterminded the exhibition *The Art of Death* at the Victoria and Albert Museum three years ago, said yesterday: "Anthony-Noel Kelly is following in a long tradition of artists who have had to find their anatomical models by skulduggery and the back door."

"The Renaissance artists got away with it as long as they stuck to paupers and prostitutes. Some, such as Leonardo, were interested in what went on under the skin. Others, such as Mantegna, wanted to know what dead skin itself looked like."

Dr Llewellyn said that it had been a long time since art students had to study rotting corpses. There had been a long tradition of art academies using an *écorché*, a plaster cast of a cadaver, to teach anatomy.

But the tradition of reality lives on among war artists, who are still confronted with the gruesome reality in the field. They are not, however, in the habit of taking his home.



Burke, left, and Hare: legislation was tightened in the wake of their body-snatching in Edinburgh

## Rail staff urged to tackle suicides

RAIL workers are being taught how to spot potential suicides in an attempt to reduce the number of people who take their own lives on the railway (Kathryn Knight writes).

Leaflets helping to identify those at risk and giving ways of helping them are being distributed to all Great North Eastern Railway staff on the East Coast main line as part of a pilot scheme run by

Railtrack and the Samaritans, which it is hoped will be extended nationally. About 170 people a year commit suicide on the railway. Staff will also be given a free chargecard to give to distressed people to telephone the Samaritans.

Yesterday the actor Michael Angelis helped to launch an awareness campaign by naming a GNER train *The Samaritans* at King's Cross in London. Posters

showing a telephone and the words: "There is a Samaritan at this station 24 hours a day" are being displayed at stations on the GNER route.

Simon Armon, chief executive of the Samaritans, said the scheme may be extended to the London Underground if successful. "It's important to reach out to people rather than to wait for the telephone to ring."

## Children at risk from poor car safety

By Jeremy Laurance

BADLY designed child car seats, and belts which are wrongly used, are putting children's lives at risk, according to a study. A survey of 180 cars found that in more than half at least one passenger was restrained by an ill-fitting or poorly secured device.

Of the 600 passengers in the survey, including 269 children, 80 per cent were using a belt or restraint of some kind. More than 40 per cent of rear-facing, and 60 per cent of two-way, child seats were being incorrectly used.

Dr Harry Campbell and colleagues of the department of public health sciences at the University of Edinburgh, who published the findings in *Injury Prevention*, say that only one of the 59 drivers asked had been shown how to fit and use a child safety seat. Three quarters of parents who had bought child restraints from supermarkets had not been told how to fit them.

Dr Mike Hayes of the Child Accident Prevention Trust, said: "No one should buy a child restraint without taking their car to the shop. You cannot take a box home from the supermarket and see whether it fits."

Drivers are receiving poor service from franchised dealers, and are more satisfied with Japanese than European cars, a survey disclosed yesterday. Subaru topped the poll carried out for the BBC2 motoring programme *Top Gear*, but Coventry-based Jaguar did make the top ten. The top-scoring Continental model was the Skoda Felicia.

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'I like philosophy because you can take your thoughts high'

Saturday in THE TIMES

How philosophy for children could change the world

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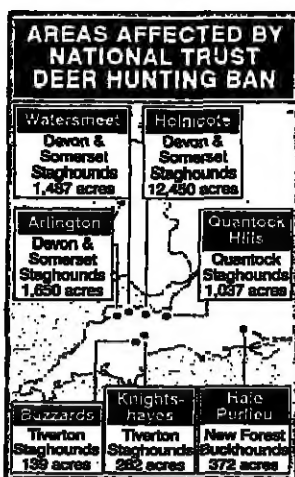
## National Trust may ban stag hunts after report on cruelty

By MICHAEL HORNSBY  
COUNTRYSIDE  
CORRESPONDENT

THE National Trust is poised to ban deer-hunting with hounds on its land after a two-year scientific study released yesterday showed that the sport causes the animals unacceptable suffering.

Hunted deer suffered the same levels of stress as deer that had been severely injured in accidents, according to the report by Patrick Bateson, Professor of Ethology [animal behaviour] at Cambridge University.

Charles Nunneley, chairman of the trust, which commissioned the report, said that the ban would be recommended to the charity's 32-member ruling council at a meeting in London today. The recommendation is that licences permitting hunting on trust land should not be renewed when they expire at the end of April. The council is expected to endorse the action.



Mr Nunneley said: "We believe that the Government should now set up an expert group to investigate whether there are similar stresses to other animals."

The Masters of Deer Hounds Association, representing the four deer hunts in England, was meeting last night in emergency session to

decide how to respond to the threat to their sport. None of the hunts uses trust land exclusively and, with the possible exception of the Quantock Staghounds, all would be able to continue hunting.

The League Against Cruel Sports said it was "overjoyed" at the conclusions of the report. Graham Sirl, its chief representative in the West Country, said: "There is no justification on any grounds whatsoever for the tremendous suffering caused to hunted deer. We call on the Government to abolish deer hunting at the earliest opportunity."

Janet George, of the British Field Sports Society, said: "We are surprised and shocked by the findings of the report. Obviously the stag hunts will have to consider their future. We do not see any immediate application of these findings to fox-hunting."

Professor Bateson said it should not be assumed that



The Devon and Somerset Staghounds. It would be able to continue hunting, despite a National Trust ban

other hunted animals, such as foxes, would necessarily show the same level of stress as deer because of their different behaviour and ecology. But anyone who took part in deer-hunting from now on would "be doing something that was knowingly cruel". The profes-

sor said he had approached the study with an open mind but had been astonished by the results and had come to the inescapable conclusion that hunting deer with hounds should end. "Hunting deer can longer be justified on welfare grounds, given the

standards applied in other fields such as transport and slaughter of farm animals, the use of animals in research, racing events and so on," he said. "The levels of stress were far above what would be seen in these areas."

Deer-hunting in England involves chasing the animals with hounds and horse-mounted huntsmen until the animals become tired and are brought to bay, when they are shot by marksmen. The season runs from August until the end of April. In Scotland deer are pursued on foot by stalkers and shot.

In 1990 trust members voted narrowly to ban deer-hunting, but the ruling council decided not to implement the ban because only about 135,000 of the two million trust members eligible to vote took part. The council also said

then it could not act because of lack of clear scientific evidence that deer-hunting was cruel.

The ban, if it goes ahead, would cover about 17,000 acres of trust land. About 10,000 acres of this was donated to the trust by the late Sir Richard Adland in 1944 with a "memorandum of wishes" that hunting should continue.

Mr Nunneley said yesterday, however, that Sir Richard's son, Sir John Adland, had informed them that his father would not have wished to maintain that stipulation in the light of the latest scientific evidence.

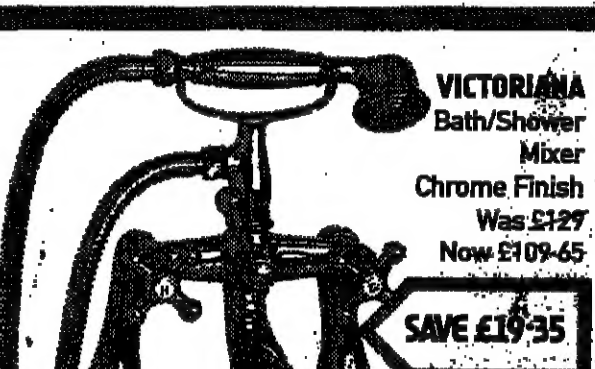
About 1,800 acres on Exmoor, given by another donor in the 1930s, was covered by a "positive covenant" in favour of hunting, Mr Nunneley said, and this meant the trust had no legal power to stop hunting there.

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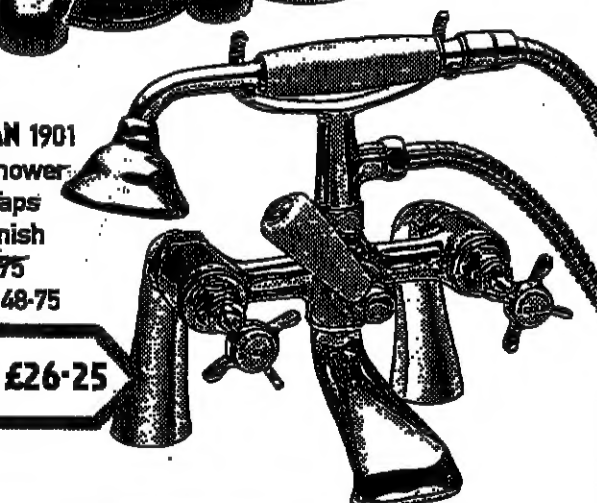
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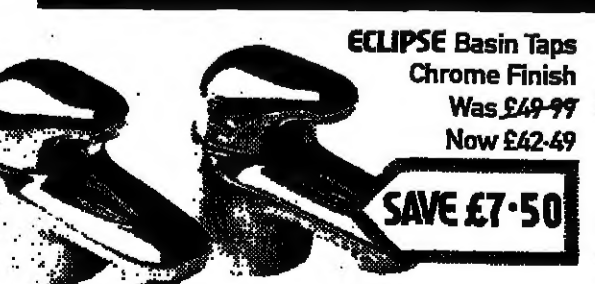
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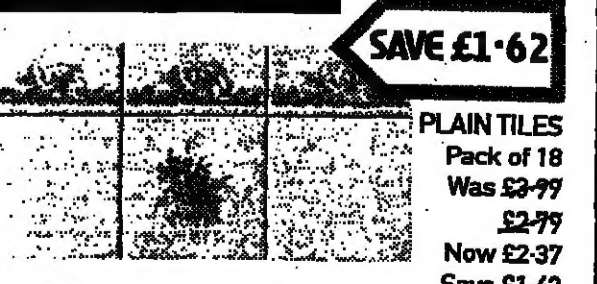
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A stag being hunted on trust land in Somerset

## The findings that surprised authors of animal study

By OUR COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

RED deer hunted with hounds are driven to "pathological extremity", suffering levels of stress far in excess of the normal limits for their species. This is the main conclusion of the report by Professor Bateson, who said that he was surprised the findings were so clear-cut.

According to the report, the data showed that "the hunted animals are extremely frightened, pushing themselves as much as they are able to save their lives". Professor Bateson and Elizabeth Bradshaw, a research associate, measured increases in stress-related hormones and other changes in the blood and muscles of deer. Dr Bradshaw spent 18 months on Exmoor following the hunt and taking blood samples from shot animals.

The main findings are:  
□ Levels of stress hormones were as high in hunted deer as in deer which had been severely injured by shooting or in car accidents and up to 15 times higher than in non-hunted animals.

□ Carbohydrate resources for the muscles were totally depleted in deer hunted for long periods.

□ Acid levels in the blood, the product of extreme exertion, rose dramatically and red blood cells started to break up soon after a hunt started.

□ In longer hunts there was leakage of enzymes from muscles, causing muscle damage.

□ Horses that completed the Grand National were in far better shape than deer that had been hunted for no more than three miles.

□ All hunted deer suffered an unacceptable level of suffering, including those which escaped. Up to 12 per cent of escapings were likely to die later because of the stress of the hunt.

□ Shooting was a much more humane way of culling deer. On average, 5 per cent of deer were wounded rather than killed outright by stalkers.

□ The average chase covered 12 miles and lasted three hours, but 30-mile hunts were not unknown.

The report says deer are by nature sedentary, with a muscle structure ill-adapted to running long distances. Hunting imposes far greater stress than predation in the wild, which kill in short chases or ambushes, or in fighting between stags.

"Therefore, we believe that red deer are unlikely to be well adapted, either by their evolutionary history or by their own individual experience, to cope with prolonged chases. The long hunts with hounds should not be regarded as natural."

The scientists say it cannot be assumed that the same pattern of stress would necessarily be observed in other hunted species, which exhibited different behaviour and physiology.

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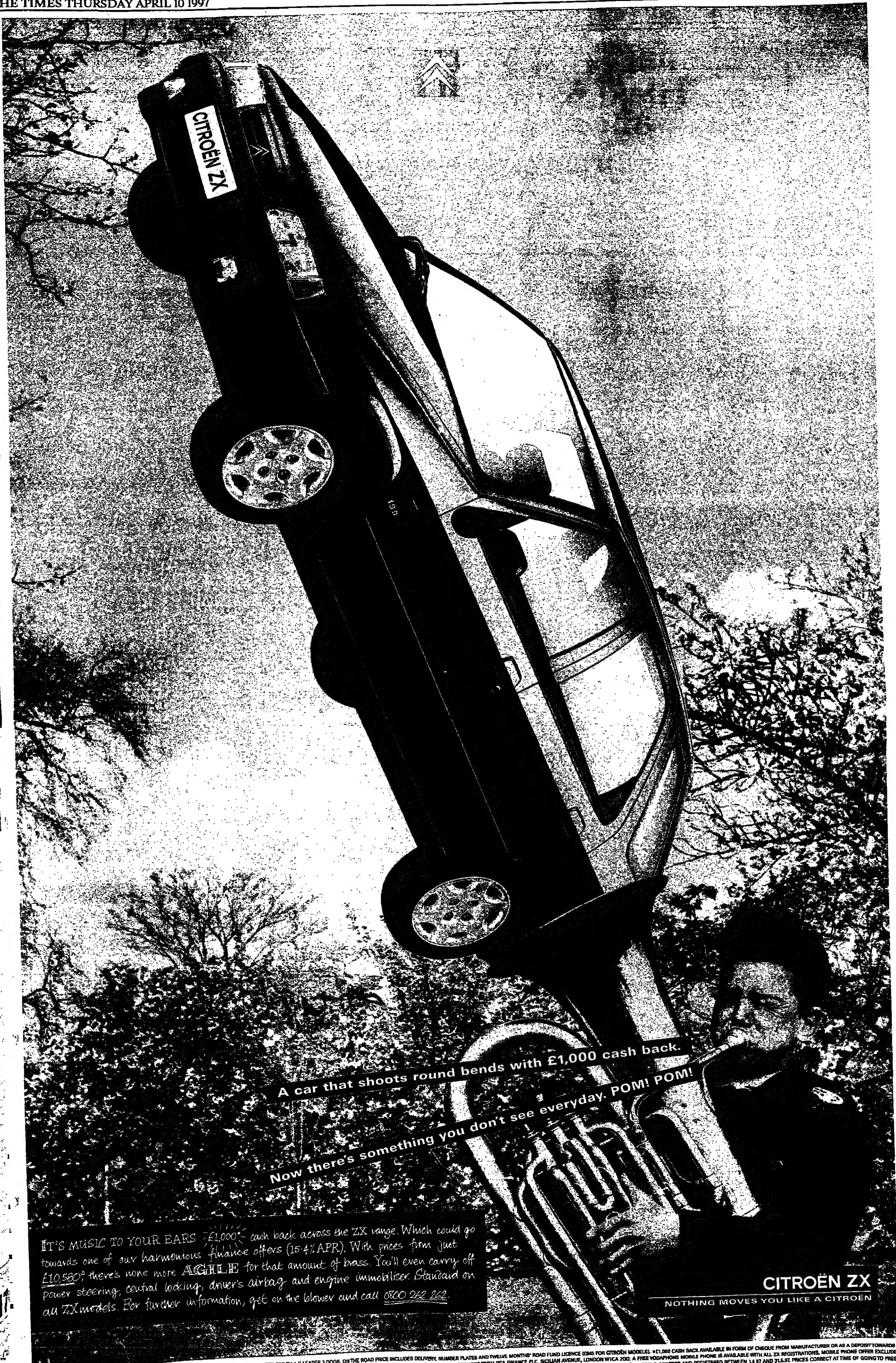
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Sociologists run their measuring tapes over female fashion and lower-division soccer



Gascoigne, left, and Shearer: wrong impression

## Not all footballers are having a ball

FOOTBALLERS stuck in the gloom of Division Three and the lesser leagues are suffering from "Shearerisation" and "Gascoigneisation", according to a sociologist (Paul Wilkinson writes).

Craig Gurney believes that the first means that they get no public sympathy because everyone thinks they earn vast amounts of money, while the other reflects the public perception that players are always involved in scandal.

Mr Gurney, who lectures on housing at the University of Wales, Cardiff, told the meeting: "Because of this, empathy for professional footballers seems limited and explains more than anything else why

they remain outside the sociological imagination."

Discussing the effects of transfers, he said nothing was known about the problems footballers faced in moving homes. In his interviews with players from less fashionable sides, he noted a common complaint that "for every Shearer, there are many more people like me".

He said that the public perception of footballers as an undeserving, super-rich group was wrong. "Male professional footballers are mundanely like workers in other occupations," Mr Gurney is working on a book about players' wives entitled *We're Not All Page 3 Girls*.

Football funding, page 19

## Get a haircut to get ahead at work, say women high-flyers

By PAUL WILKINSON

WOMEN were told yesterday that if they wanted to get ahead in their careers they should get a haircut. And definitely not wear a cardigan.

A study of power-dressing among female high-achievers found that what they most feared was looking like a secretary; they might find themselves asked to make the coffee.

In a paper delivered to the British Sociological Association yesterday, Joanne Entwistle set out the sartorial rules for professional women, based on her questioning of women working in the law, business and media.

Miss Entwistle, 29, told the conference at York University that big shoulder pads, short skirts and high heels had become a 1980s cliché. Today, tailored jackets with skirt or trousers, sensible shoes and subtle make-up are *de rigueur*. Hair should not be more than shoulder length because that would be too sexy.

Dressed in a smart tailored navy blue trouser suit and pale blue blouse, with dark brown hair cut to touch her

shoulders, Miss Entwistle, a lecturer at the University of North London, said: "Long hair is too feminine or 'girly'. The women I spoke to thought looking sexy was a bad thing, though looking attractive is fine. Women in a position of power in the boardroom, the law and politics do not want to look too sexy."

"The other fear is looking like a secretary. They felt cardigan and jumpers would mean them being mistaken for a lowly clerical worker and they could be asked to make the coffee in the boardroom."

"Successful women want status, and power-dressing is one way to get it. They wear clothes that say 'Take me seriously' and 'Respect me'. Men have always had a business outfit to identify themselves, and now it seems professional women have one too."

The typical outfit, particularly in the law and business, was quite conservative. "A tailored jacket with small shoulder pads, skirt or trousers, in navy or grey. Women in the media get away with bright colours — after all,

nearly every woman on television wears them," Miss Entwistle said.

She added that power-dressing was a way for a woman to gain parity with men. More and more professional women were asking image consultants for tips on the right colours and the best make-up and hairstyle.

The 24 women Miss Entwistle spoke to agreed that they needed to "power-dress" to climb the professional ladder. "Some women who want to wear cardigans and jumpers at work have found they were told to dress smarter by their bosses," she said.

"Power-dressing has helped women to move on and fashion themselves an image they never had before."

"Some women don't like it and feel it is imposed upon them, but they feel that to achieve, they have to dress this way. However, most say power-dressing gives them status, confidence and authority at work. My advice to any would-be career women going for an interview is: wear a jacket and make sure your make-up is not too garish."



Dressed for success: Joanne Entwistle yesterday

## Rapist is questioned on murder

A man serving life for rape was being questioned yesterday by police in Darlington, Co Durham, about the murder of Ann Heron, 44, near the town in August 1990. Philip Hann, 29, who was given a life sentence in 1994 for a rape in the area, was taken to Darlington from Wakefield prison.

Mrs Heron was murdered while sunbathing in her garden. Despite the biggest investigation ever undertaken by Durham police, no one has been charged with the murder.

## E-type death

A man who had saved up for years to buy an E-type Jaguar died in the passenger seat of an open-top model after a mechanic taking him on a test drive braked to avoid a bird and lost control at No Man's Heath, Chilcote, Leicestershire. Police have appealed for witnesses to the accident.

## Driver attacked

The driver of a classic car was beaten round the head with a metal tool in a "road rage" attack outside Eastbourne General Hospital, East Sussex. It is thought that his attacker was annoyed because he had not spotted the flip-out indicator arms on the 1954 Hillman Bullnose Minx.

## Soldier jailed

Private Simon Blake, 24, of The Prince of Wales Regiment, based at Canterbury, was jailed by Maidstone Crown Court for two years after brandishing an imitation handgun, while drunk, at two of his girlfriend's colleagues. He was upset at her recent treatment at work.

## Cliff-top fall

A woman aged 57 fell 200ft to her death while walking with her husband on an unfenced cliff-top. He raised the alarm at a house close to the scene, near Deal, Kent. Police said that there were no suspicious circumstances. An inquest will be held.

## Sailor honoured

The solo yachtsman Peter Goss, 35, received a Royal Ocean Racing Club trophy for his rescue of Raphael Dinelli in the Southern Ocean last December. He is also to receive the Legion d'honneur, France's highest bravery award.

## Pulling the rug

Police in Rainham, Kent, hired eight wigs for an identity parade so that a building society cashier could pick out a raider who had disguised himself with fake permed hair, sunglasses and a baseball cap. The accused was later jailed for 12 years.

## Navy man banned for hitting ref

A PETTY officer in the Royal Navy was banned yesterday from attending all football matches for 15 months and fined £2,750 after assaulting a Football League referee.

Darren Williams, 29, of Christchurch, Dorset, attacked Ian Cruickshanks during a match between Bury and Bournemouth in February. Bury Magistrates' Court was told, Mr Cruickshanks had a four-inch scratch to his neck and shoulder.

Philip Thompson, in mitigation, said that Williams went on to the pitch because he wanted to speak to the referee. He was stopped and led away by stewards. He knew he was wrong and apologised at once.

Williams, who is an amateur referee, has been banned from officiating for the Navy and in local games. He faces Navy discipline and will not be eligible for promotion for at least a further three years.

Williams, who pleaded guilty, was fined £2,000 for assault and £750 for invading the pitch, with £45 costs and £100 compensation.

## Scientists target inescapable bullet

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

SMART bullets that will track the movement of targets as they try to escape are being developed by scientists. An innovative nose cone, capable of hundreds of movements a second, will enable snipers to pick off human targets several kilometres away, it is claimed.

The ammunition, guided by a laser-tracking system of the type used by the RAF in the Gulf War, is being developed for the US Air Force. The researchers initially concentrated on bullets up to 20 millimetres fired by aircraft, but they are already working on smaller versions.

The system is called barrel-

launched adaptive munitions (Blam). Ron Barrett, an aerospace engineer at Auburn University in Alabama, who is testing prototypes, said: "The way pilots guarantee a hit is by filling the sky with lead. With Blam, pilots would need only one bullet to get a hit."

The direction of the bullet is controlled by the new nose cone, which contains tiny piezoelectric rods or tendons which can shorten or lengthen hundreds of times a second. "At supersonic speed, very small angles generate huge amounts of lift," Dr Barrett told *New Scientist*.



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Adrian Rogers says homosexuality is "disease-ridden"

## Lonely Tory faces his worst fears incarnate

THE lonely-looking candidate was carrying a small soap box and flanked by two nervy and embarrassed young minders. "I know you," he said, "you're the man who writes unpleasant things about me in *The Times*. I hardly think you're going to be impartial here. You don't give a man a fair chance."

This was the Conservative candidate for Exeter, a Tory marginal, Dr Adrian Rogers — he of the "homosexuality is a sterile, disease-ridden occupation" opinions did indeed know me. I have written in the past of the difficulty Tory voters in Exeter who are gay, or tolerant of others who are, may have in voting for him this time.

The contest is made the more piquant by the fact that his Labour opponent, Ben Bradshaw, is openly gay. "Bent Ben," Rogers has called him. Worse, Bradshaw works for the BBC. Worse still, he comes from London. Rogers, a GP who has led the Conservative Family Campaign, finds within his sights the very evil he has campaigned against for years.

The campaign is not going well. When Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, visited Exeter recently, there was, sadly, no time to meet the Tory candidate. The outgoing Tory MP, Sir John Hannam, has found it inconvenient to put in more than a token effort on his successor's behalf. Ben Bradshaw, meanwhile, is basking (if we may put it thus) in Dr Rogers's disapproval.

Bradshaw is a leggy, fresh-faced, floppy-haired young man with a quick mind, a pleasant manner, a ready smile, a vaulting ambition, unlimited energy, a



MATTHEW PARRIS

mercy laugh and a strategic sense of humour-failure wherever humour looks risky.

"Really nice to meet you," "isn't it hot today?", "Absolutely!", "Lovely to meet," all the best... Mr Bradshaw was canvassing Church Road: in new-Labour-Speak "blitzing and voter-IDing".

"I'm a Liberal, really," said one lady householder, abashed.

"Absolutely. But you know, that's a little bit of a waste."

He combines an eagerness to gather us all up with an unsettling vagueness as to where he means to take us. The project was Victory. Full stop. As he leapt down the street, darting this way and that ahead of the throng, he reminded me of a Pied Piper of Hamelin.

"I meet a lot of Liberal Democrats, voting for me. Here's one of my posters, in case you get more committed. Then you can stick it up."

"Stick it up where?" I asked.

Sense-of-humour failure. "Soft Labour, former Liberal, eminently squeezable," he instructed his aide briskly, diving for another door.

"I don't want that Common Market," said another woman, but Bradshaw changed the subject. Whatever people asked, he switched deftly to the NHS and Education. Absolutely. It was as though he were programmed.

"I'm a capitalist," barked one elderly lady, round her door. "Home rule for England! No more money for Scotland!"

"I'm very religious," he told us, pointing. "That's my church. Every Sunday. Six old ladies and me." "Seven old ladies, then," I said. Sense-of-humour-failure. Absolutely. We were nearing the Cathedral, outside which Tony Blair was to speak after lunch. As we entered a pub, one youth, mistaking him for Blair, muttered "Tony Blair. Full of shit."

"Isn't it lovely?" said Bradshaw, indicating the Gothic architecture outside. "You wouldn't believe it was going to be Labour after May 1." He ordered a pint of shandy and a cornish pasty.

Through the plain glass we had seen Dr Rogers. He had arrived to canvass the square but seemed unsettled by Bradshaw's appearance in the pub. It was then that I had stepped outside to meet him.

"You should be ashamed," Rogers had said, ending our conversation. "Go home." I was not ashamed, but something disquieted me, attached as I was to Ben Bradshaw's self-confident claque and sense of approaching victory. I felt that the isolated Dr Rogers was rather brave.



Ben Bradshaw, Dr Rogers's openly gay Labour opponent

## Tories make capital on Prescott's doubts over privatisation

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tories seized yesterday on an admission by John Prescott that Labour had no plans to privatise anything, claiming this flew in the face of Tony Blair's new conversion to the private sector.

"We don't have a policy of directly wanting to privatise anything, quite frankly. But we will face the realities of what has to be done with public assets," Labour's deputy leader told ITN news.

Dr Brian Mawhinney said that view contradicted Mr Blair who had spent all week giving the impression that he had a privatisation policy. "It is now clear that Labour is in turmoil and disarray over its eleven-hour conversion to privatisation," the Tory Party chairman said. "John Prescott has little in common with Mr Blair and open warfare is now breaking out at the very top of the Labour Party."

Mr Prescott told ITN that Labour would inherit a financial crisis from the Tories and "we are quite prepared in some cases, perhaps, to consider selling, and in some cases putting them into public/private ownership". He pointed out that as Mr Blair had said, it was not total privatisation or total nationalisation, both of which had not worked in some cases.

"It's a combination of practical common sense. I've always stood for that. A bit of the old traditional values in a modern setting. I'm quite happy to stand by that," he said.

Last night John Major said Labour was in open warfare on privatisation policy. Mr Blair was now in favour of privatisation but Mr Prescott had said they did not have a policy of wanting to privatise anything. "Open policy, open mouth, open mind, open war-

fare, that's the real Labour party up and down the country," the Prime Minister said.

Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, earlier accused Labour of "cynically lying" over its position on the privatisation of the National Air Traffic Control System.

Gordon Brown acknowledged last week that he would consider selling it off as part of a whole range of possible privatisations if he became Chancellor. He denied this week that it was a U-turn.

His admission came under pressure to say how he would fill the £1.5 billion gap between Labour's spending plans and the Tories' privatisation receipts. The disclosure contradicted a statement by Andrew Smith, shadow transport secretary, who told Labour's conference last autumn: "Our air is not for sale."

Over the weekend a Labour spokesman claimed that Mr Smith had not opposed the principle of the sell-off, just the particular scheme. He added that senior party figures had made clear this year that privatisation was an option.

Yesterday, the Tories released a letter dated February 5 from Keith Bradley, a shadow transport minister, to air traffic controllers: it insisted that Labour was implacably opposed to the sell-off.

Mr Heseltine, speaking on Radio 4's *Today* programme, highlighted the contradiction. He said: "Tony Blair's deceit is out in the open. He has broken his promises to air traffic controllers. He tells them one thing in private and another in public."

## Blair heads for new frontiers in humour

TONY BLAIR had a funny turn last night at a "show" for party supporters in Plymouth. His inspiration came from another guest, Patric Stewart — Jean-Luc Picard in *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Mr Blair told the audience of "a heartless being whose only motive was power and whose only aim was destruction." A Borg, perhaps? "No, Michael

Howard." A mysterious world inhabited by strange beings with odd haircuts and bewildering beliefs: Planet Portillo. "Here on planet Earth we don't have Klingons, we have Tories. First we had John Major clinging on as long as he could before calling an election. Now we have the ultimate cling-on — the so-called Honourable Member for Tatton."

## Plot thickens in row over 'jobs for Tony's cronies'

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY Blair was embroiled in a row yesterday after the disclosure that veteran Labour MPs were being offered jobs in the House of Lords to persuade them to stand down to make way for younger candidates.

Seven Labour stalwarts have announced since the election was called that they were quitting. At least two have been offered "high-powered jobs in a Labour government."

John Evans, 66, an MP for 23 years, was approached with the offer of a senior post by a friend who came with the full authority of the Labour leader. Allan Rogers, 64, the MP for Rhondda was also sounded out over whether he would accept a peerage in return for giving up his safe seat.

The revelations came only a day after Sir Ray Powell, 68,

the MP for Ogmore since 1979, alleged that he was offered a peerage by Ron Davies, the Shadow Welsh Secretary. "It was a straight deal. Whether he had the right to do that I don't know," he told the *Western Mail* yesterday. Mr Davies has denied the charge.

Mr Evans, a highly respected backbencher and former member of the National Executive Committee, was approached the day after John Major announced the date of the general election.

The unnamed intermediary gave him 24 hours to decide whether to accept the offer of an unspecified job or to stay on. Mr Evans decided to resign and wait for the call from Mr Blair after the election.

Mr Evans said last night: "No one attempted to put any pressure on me to stand down,

It was entirely my decision." But friends say that he was offered a senior job.

Conservative Central Office said: "These are jobs in the Lords for Tony's cronies. And jobs in the Commons for Tony's boys and girls. It is Labour sieze."

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**Philip Webster** reports how the darling of Central Office returned to the role he loves best.

## Warrior

**Labour's programme is superficial, generalised, soft in impact and devoid of substance.**

Then, adapting one of his most quoted remarks, he brought the house

Campaigning is what Mr Heseltine does best and the years have rolled off him these past few days. Soon he was off to Lancashire and last night he was again laying into the enemy. A close aide said: "He is loving every single minute of it — the long campaign must have been his idea."



## Dominic Kennedy sees Thatcher storm Hampshire

Lady Thatcher fiercely bossed Christopher Chope, who is trying to wrest Christchurch back for the Conservatives from the Liberal Democrat by-election victor Diana Maddock. She ordered him to mingle with some more garden centre visitors, saying: "You will win, but you will have to work quite hard, do you hear? You need a good display of posters, you have got to see that they are not torn down."

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# Tories claw back support as managers of the economy

Peter Riddell on MORI poll findings which suggest that the voters are beginning to focus on the election issues

THE Conservatives have sharply improved their rating over the past few months as the party best able to manage the economy and to handle taxation, according to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*. The poll, based on interviews conducted on Tuesday, shows that Labour remains well ahead on the key issues which people regard as "very important" in helping to decide how they vote, such as healthcare, education and unemployment. But the Tories are in the lead as the best party on the next two issues in ranking of importance: law and order and economic management. Out of the 16 issues rated as very important, Labour is ahead on eight, the Tories on seven and the Liberal Democrats on one (protecting the natural environment).

As significant is the big relative improvement in the Tories' standing as the best

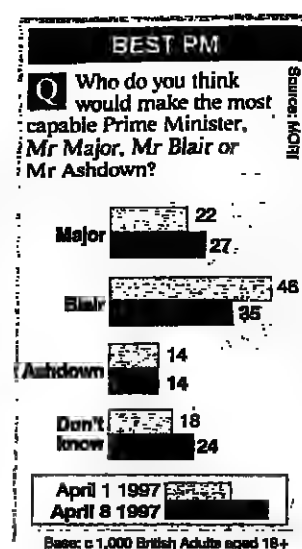
party on taxation. In February, Labour was in the lead by 33 to 31 per cent among those regarding the issue as very important in deciding their votes. Now, the Tories are ahead by 41 to 26 per cent. The Tories have also improved their standing on managing the economy: some 45 per cent now rate them as the best party, against 23 per cent for Labour. There has been a similar shift on Europe, where the Tories now enjoy a two-to-one lead, whereas the two parties were level-pegging a year ago.

These shifts suggest that the start of the campaign has started to focus the public's minds on the issues and that some of the Tory propaganda on the economy may have started to have an impact.

If the current views of all voters, rather than just those mentioning a particular issue as important, are compared with their attitudes at the same stage of the 1992 general

election campaign, the Tories have roughly the same lead over Labour on managing the economy as they did then. However, the Tory lead on Europe and taxation is down over the period: Labour is in a slightly stronger position now on education and health care, and the Tories' big lead on law and order has virtually been eliminated.

Labour's shifts on certain policies in recent days may also have damaged its image and that of Tony Blair. The number regarding him as the most capable Prime Minister has dropped from 46 to 35 per cent over the past week, with above average falls among men and among 18 to 34-year-olds. By contrast, there has been a rise of five points to 27 per cent in the number naming John Major as the most capable Prime Minister but also a six-point rise in the don't know to 24 per cent. This suggests an increased fluidity



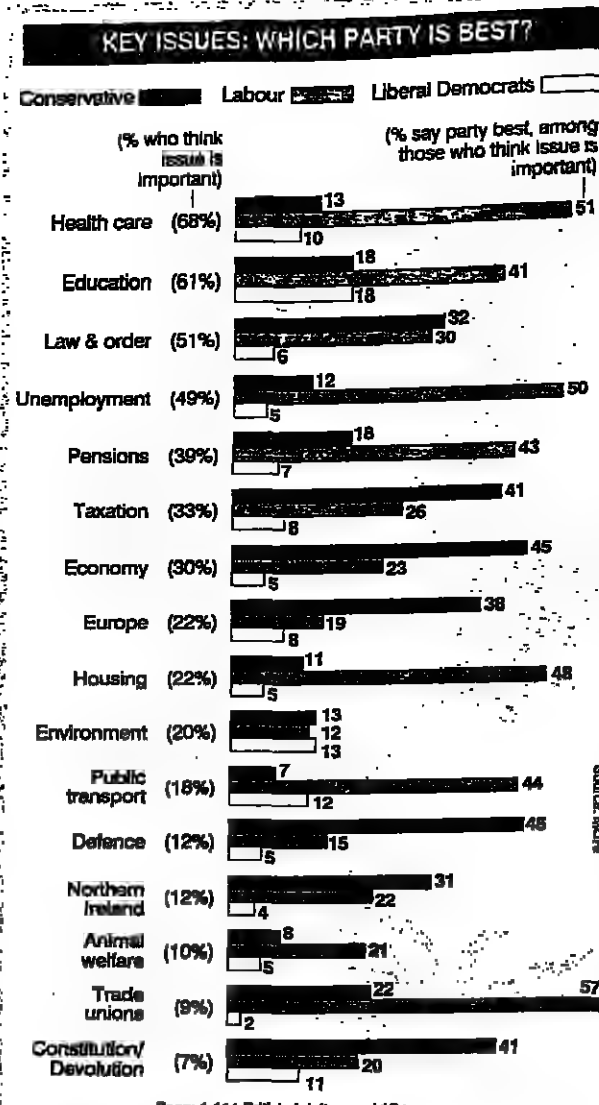
in the campaign, also indicated by the rising number of people saying they may change their mind.

Nonetheless, a clear majority of the public believes that Labour is ready to form the next Government and Mr Blair is ready to be Prime Minister. The answers to these

questions have been relatively stable over the past 18 months with between 55 and 58 per cent agreeing that Labour is ready to form the next government (55 per cent now) and between 53 and 56 per cent agreeing that Mr Blair is ready to become Prime Minister (53 per cent now). In each case, about a third of the public disagree with the proposition that Labour is ready to form the next Government and Mr Blair to be Prime Minister. These figures still indicate that the majority of people are now prepared for a change of government.

The poll confirms the fluctuations in support for the Referendum Party, now put at 1 per cent, compared with a rounded up 2 per cent a week ago and a peak of 3 per cent before Easter.

MORI interviewed 1,114 adults at 83 sampling points across Britain on Tuesday, April 8. Voting intention figures exclude those who say they will not vote (8 per cent), those who say they are undecided (12 per cent) and those who refuse to say (4 per cent).



## Apathy worse than in 1992

FEWER people say that they are certain to vote than at the same stage of the last general election, according to the MORI poll.

Some 62 per cent of the public say they are certain to vote, compared with 67 per cent three weeks before polling day in 1992. Nearer to polling day, the proportion saying they are certain to vote tends to rise. The turnout was 78 per cent last time.

Young people are now much less likely than the middle-aged to say they are certain to vote: 36 per cent of 18 to 24-year-olds say they are certain to vote — half the proportion of those aged over 55.

Three-quarters or more of those who have deserted the Tories since 1992 or who have switched behind Labour say they are certain to vote.

Some 28 per cent of those expressing a party preference say they may change their mind before polling day. This compares with 16 per cent at the end of the last campaign. If the undecided are included, this suggests that a third of the public are floating voters.

## Parties back new legal network on human rights

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

POLITICIANS from the main political parties are among top QCs and solicitors backing the launch tonight of a new legal network in support of the human rights group Liberty.

The Conservative Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC, the Labour peer Lord Archer of Sandwell, QC, Alex Carlile, QC, and Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC, (Liberal Democrats) have signed up as founding members of Lawyers for Liberty.

Barristers and solicitors joining the network will take a leading role in Liberty's work of protecting and extending human rights, as well as contributing financially to its work. They will be involved in drafting amendments to Bills, helping Liberty's litigation strategy and considering responses to changes in the law.

Others who back the network include Tony Gilling, president of the Law Society, and Robert Owen, QC, chairman of the Bar. Lord Browne-Wilkinson, the law lord who stirred opposition to the Police Bill by drawing attention to provisions that he said threatened civil liberties, will speak at the launch.

John Wadham, director of Liberty, said: "As one of the UK's leading civil liberties

and human rights organisations, Liberty has been working to protect rights for over 60 years. During this time lawyers have always had an essential role to play. Lawyers for Liberty will put this on a formal footing."

He said the network's aims were two-fold. "Partly it is about fund-raising but more importantly it is to get help from lawyers with the wider aspects of our work. We have always succeeded in finding top lawyers to help with litigation but we would like to involve lawyers more in policy and lobbying work."

MPs taking bribes, as alleged in the "cash for questions" affair, could for the first time face criminal charges and fines or prison under proposals being considered by all the main parties. John Major said yesterday that he would "certainly examine the question of whether bribery [involving MPs] should be a criminal offence".

If bribery had been a criminal offence, some of the central allegations in the "cash for questions" affair could have been considered by the Crown Prosecution Service rather than by the internal disciplinary committees.

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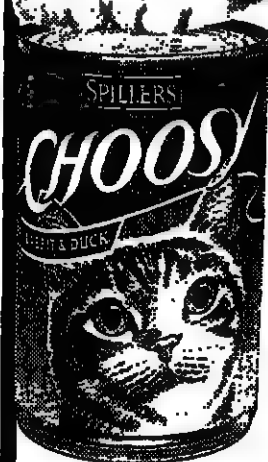


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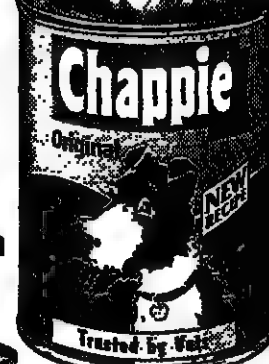


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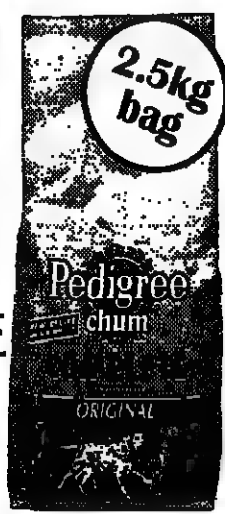
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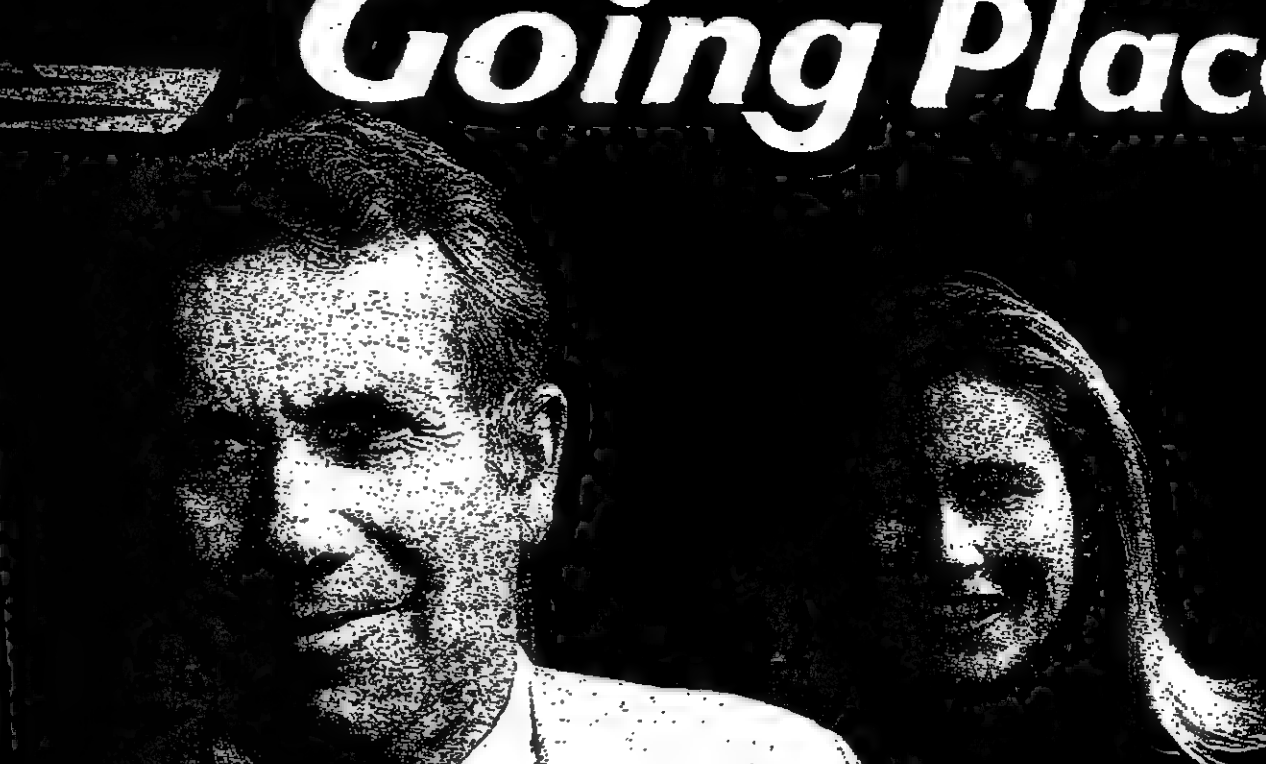
minutes to nearly an hour to include special election coverage. According to unofficial figures, the programme, which had an average audience of 6.1 million in 1996, dropped to an average of 4.4 million last week, bottom-

Television, page 47

# Back new network in right



# Going Places



**Martin Bell and Melissa, his daughter and "agent", go campaigning in Wilmslow, a prosperous town studded with BMWs and Jaguars**

**BY CAROL MIDGLEY**

Already Miss Bell, who normally

Worse news for the Hamilton camp may be that Miss Bell, the eldest of two daughters, is intelligent, articulate, bilingual, as well as utterly photogenic. She is

She graduated from Warwick University with a 2:1 degree in politics. She says she is currently unattached, and has taken up snow-boarding. Although she works in marketing for Reuters in Brussels, her ambition is to move into print journalism.

**By JAMES LANDALE AND POLLY NEWTON**

Mr Blair added: "The fact that he is still there has nothing whatever to do with the rules of the Conservative Party constitution. It has everything to do with the weakness of the Conservative Party leadership."

A grainy, black and white photograph of a multi-story building, possibly a school or institutional structure, with a prominent 'STOP' sign in the foreground on the right side. The building has several windows and a flat roof. The image is heavily textured with noise, typical of a low-quality photocopy or a very old film print.

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# Wily Cook unwilling to be saddled with his horse's guilt



PETER BARNARD

AT LAST this election campaign has a real issue: does Robin Cook take part in fox-hunting, or does he just ride horses that take part in fox-hunting? Is riding a horse that follows hounds the same as taking part in fox-hunting? Can a horse be guilty of fox-hunting but its rider not guilty?

I mused on these matters after an otherwise humdrum launch of the BBC's *Election Call*, which began yesterday and runs every weekday until polling day. The return of *Election Call*, in mothballs since

1992, means the return of the dread word simulcast, for the programme is simultaneously broadcast on BBC1 and Radio 4. So you had the choice of looking at Cook, or not looking at him.

I looked, but used the radio sound, a technique taken from football commentaries. The first half was dull, although there was a goalmouth scramble when Cook nearly accused a caller of being a Tory stooge. Heaven forbid.

Clive Baxter from Chesterfield, Derbyshire, had called up to accuse

Labour of "aping Tory policies", which raised the alarming prospect of a member of the public who had actually read the Labour manifesto. Cook started: "I think, Clive, you've got two separate briefs from Central Office..."

Peter Sissons, the presenter, said: "You're not accusing him of being a Central Office stooge, are you?" and Baxter interjected: "Well, I'm most certainly not a member of the Conservative Party." Cook had the last word on Tory membership, but spoilt it by mixing up Clive Baxter's

name. "Well, they're a diminishing band, Mr Clive..." After that, there was a slight frisson when Eric Maddocks from Taunton wanted to know if Labour MPs' sponsorship by unions was not "money for questions on the grand scale".

Cook replied that he was "connected" with RMT, the rail union, but "it is not sponsorship, it's an agreement between the unions and my constituency party". The rail union "might take a different view [on rail privatisation] from that that is currently being expressed by the

Labour leadership". It was unclear whether Cook and the Labour leadership are one and the same.

And so to Peter Evelyn of London, Mr Evelyn, unusually for a city dweller, was in favour of field sports and said: "I understand you are as well." There was little chance of the position being so simple.

Cook: "I've never hunted, I've never shot, I've never fished."

Sissons: "But you ride." Cook: "Oh I ride, yes, but lots of people ride who never ride to hounds, I thoroughly enjoy riding."

Sissons: So you don't ride to hounds?

Cook: "No, I'll freely admit that I have ridden horses that have followed hounds. I hope that doesn't make me guilty."

The image of the dapper Foreign Secretary-in-waiting out for a canter when his horse sniffs hounds and dashes off in pursuit, oblivious to every tug on the reins, is quite engaging — unless the scene is a metaphor, with the unions as the horse.

Radio, page 46

## Famous Tory names hope familiarity breeds intent

Damian Whitworth meets Norman Lamont, and Michael Horsnell meets David Amess, who have switched constituencies after boundary changes

THEY are two familiar faces in new places: one-time Tory heroes who have moved on after boundary changes left their old seats unsafe or non-existent.

In this election, the former Chancellor Norman Lamont, once John Major's right-hand man, is standing to become a North Yorkshire MP after losing his place in the Home Counties. And David Amess, once the champion of Basildon Man, hopes the coast is clear for him to win the safer seat of Southend West, long guarded by an old Tory dynasty.

Mr Lamont has mostly spurned offers of local TV debates, newspaper interviews or even photo calls, and is confining himself to voters' doorsteps in Harrogate and Knaresborough. He seems to have realised that he has a fight on his hands protecting a Tory majority of 9,211.

Last week, the former MP for the now vanished constituency of Kingston upon



Lamont: thinks Labour surge may help him

Thames he was in London while his Liberal Democrat opponents were canvassing tirelessly. Then *The Times* disclosed Mr Lamont's big idea: a panel including Lord Archer, Lord Lloyd-Webber and Lord Palumbo to advise on the future of the Harrogate area. The scheme was treated with moderate enthusiasm in the area. However, a weekend survey suggested that many

Labour supporters were planning to cast their votes for the Liberal Democrats in a tactical ploy. On Monday, Mr Lamont hit the streets again. Paddy Ashdown has also visited Harrogate, and took Mr Lamont at the starting point for his speech at a Westminster rally. "We really have got Norman Lamont on the run. After rejections from a dozen seats, he ended up in

Harrogate. Norman was out of the frying pan and into the fire."

Mr Lamont clinched the nomination for Harrogate by just a handful of local party votes, after months of humiliating rejection by other Conservative Associations. But the Boundary Commission has caused upheaval here too, taking away affluent rural pockets from the constituency, which had remained a safe Tory seat for 23 years in the hands of Robert Banks, who lived in Suffolk.

The Liberal Democrats are rampant. Of the 35 councillors in the constituency, 28 are Liberal Democrat and only three Tory. Mr Lamont's key opponent is Phil Willis, a head teacher who has led the council since 1990. Mr Willis, 55, is comparing his own financial acumen with the local budget with Mr Lamont's days as Chancellor.

Mr Willis said: "I don't blame him entirely for Black



Family tradition: Lady Iveagh campaigning in Southend in 1927. Below, her grandson and successor Paul Channon, left, who is retiring after 38 years in the seat, and his would-be successor David Amess

Wednesday, but I do blame him for tax promises he didn't keep and for VAT on fuel."

*The Times* finally tracked down Mr Lamont on his way back to his campaign headquarters after a pub lunch. He was then, setting off to Knaresborough with his wife and party workers. He said he did not believe that newspa-

pers hugely influenced voters, and he wanted to spend time meeting constituents.

Eventually, he agreed to an interview. "I have been working exceedingly hard here for a year and a quarter and have met a huge number of people. When I was out today, I met a chap whom I had met three times before. I have been here every weekend apart from a handful, and in midweek quite a lot."

He said that he was especially interested in issues regarding the heritage of Harrogate, which was being over developed by the Liberal Democrats. His own survey, he claimed, showed that the Labour vote was rising sharply, and those of the Lib Dems and the Tories were dropping. "And that is what I believe will happen." So the Labour rise would return him to Westminster.

Life is looking simpler for David Amess, described as the only Conservative to have moved nearer to Europe since the election was called. He has taken the "chicken run" from the concrete walkways of marginal new-town Essex for Southern West's Tory majority of 12,000, guarded by the Guinness-Channon dynasty for most of the century.

It was occupied by the former Cabinet minister Paul Channon for 38 years. Mr



Channon's grandfather, the Honourable R. E. C. L. Guinness, was elected in 1912. Mr Channon's grandmother, Lady Iveagh, was elected in 1927, and went on to be chosen by Baldwin as the first woman to chair a party conference, because he thought it was going to be "difficult". The seat was passed to her son Sir Henry "Chips" Channon, and finally to Paul Channon at the age of 23, in 1959.

The contrast between the patrician figure of Mr Channon (Eton, Oxford and the Blues) and Mr Amess does not alarm the cockney grammar schoolboy, whose parents worked as an electrician and a tea lady. At Iveagh Hall, his campaign headquar-

ters, Mr Amess joked: "If I want to start a new family tradition, I could go one better. My son is also David Amess, although, I am not encouraging him to go into politics."

"Mr Channon served Southend well. It is rather different here from Basildon. It's a civilised area with traditions."

Mr Amess claims that far from leaving Basildon, where a notional 2.2 per cent swing would hand the seat to Labour, Basildon left him: "Even my headquarters and constituency association there are now in another constituency because of the boundary changes."

"It is no longer the same seat. I was the first and last MP for Basildon."

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# Kohl's wise men urge two-year delay on euro

## Chirac visits Bonn to heal differences

FROM DEBORAH COLCUTT IN BONN

TWO of Germany's "five wise men" have cast doubt on their Government's ability to fulfil entry criteria for economic and monetary union (EMU). Their misgivings emerged before talks in Bonn last night between Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and President Chirac of France, aimed at patching up growing Franco-German differences over Europe.

Professor Herbert Hax, the president of the group of top five independent economists who advise the German Government, backed comments by Professor Rolf Peffekoven, his colleague. Professor Peffekoven said the start of EMU would have to be delayed by up to two years because of Bonn's strict interpretation of the Maastricht treaty entry criteria.

In an interview with Cologne's *Express* newspaper, Professor Peffekoven said this line of monetary policy was wise to a point, but not as regards reducing the budget deficit to 3 per cent of the gross domestic product this year in time for monetary union entry on January 1, 1999.

"As a softening of the convergence criteria is now out of the question, the single currency must be delayed for between one to two years," he said. The professor, who lectures in finance at Mainz University, said the Chancellor and Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, had more

room to play with than they allowed themselves.

Professor Hax, a lecturer in finance at Cologne University, echoed the views of his colleague in an interview in today's *Kölnischer Rundschau* by saying it was too late to relax interpretation of the criteria.

"It is better to hang on the hardline approach and delay the start of the euro," he said, adding that if European Union members could agree to a relaxation of the convergence terms then they "should say so today, so that the countries can adjust".

He told the newspaper that it was unlikely Germany would fulfil the criteria in the present economic climate. "Other EU countries have the same problem and a single European currency with only a few participants makes no sense," he said.

The euro was one of the topics due for discussion in Bonn last night and President Chirac is sure to be unsettled by Professor Peffekoven's comments.

The junior coalition partners of Herr Kohl's Christian Union, the Free Democrats (FDP), met the Chancellor in Bonn on Tuesday to smooth over a rift between Herr Waigel and Klaus Kinkel, the FDP Foreign Minister.

"Along with other EU colleagues, you should get on with your job of concentrating on the political union and save



Helmut Kohl rings the bell to open yesterday's Cabinet meeting, while two top advisers were urging him to ring the changes on EMU

us your advice on the single European currency." Herr Waigel warned Herr Kinkel in response to a newspaper article quoting the Foreign Minister as saying Germany was at "the point of no return" with the euro.

Herr Waigel interpreted his colleague's comment as an attempt to indicate that Germany should soften its

stand on the stability criteria — a view described as "unnecessary and exaggerated" by the FDP. The Finance Minister denied reports that he had relaxed his efforts to match the budget to the 3 per cent target.

Sources in Bonn said the Government considered Herr Kinkel was making life hard by implying the criteria could be interpreted more loosely

when the Finance Minister and Chancellor have no intention, at present, of straying from the hardline approach.

International markets will be hoping for a statement from the Chancellor after his meeting with President Chirac to explain Germany's dogged policy on strict criteria compliance amid signs that it cannot meet it.

Professor Peffekoven said in view of the latest unemployment figures — a small monthly fall but a new March post-war record of 4.48 million or 11.7 per cent — Germany could easily fail to fulfil the criteria. "I predict average unemployment of 4.2 million in 1997, that is to say that no change in the trend can be achieved," he said. "Therefore it will be

difficult to reach the 3 per cent deficit criteria." He added that as the Government had ruled out further tax increases, public spending and welfare benefits would have to be drastically reduced.

During their informal talks, Herr Kohl and M Chirac are expected to discuss European Union reform plans and the expansion of Nato.

## Nato deal paves way for French re-entry

BY MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

PARIS is ready to resolve its dispute with the Americans over the command of Nato's southern Europe headquarters, which should guarantee France's reintegration into the alliance's military structure after an absence of 31 years.

The first stage in a deal between Washington and Paris emerged yesterday when it was confirmed that a Nato-Russia summit to sign a security charter will be held in Paris on May 27, if talks with Moscow are completed in time.

The choice of Paris for an event that will formalise a new strategic partnership between Nato and Russia is a significant boost for French prestige. It will also provide proof for the French that Nato has changed sufficiently since the end of the Cold War to justify France's return to the integrated structure which it left in March 1966.

The second part of the deal is expected to be a compromise under which the Americans will retain command of Allied Forces Southern Europe (Afsouth), based in Naples, but a European will be given a new four-star deputy commander post which will be responsible for all European force structures in the region.

France has been demanding that a European should be in command at Afsouth but the United States, which has the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean, has refused to relinquish control of the key headquarters command. French ministers said they would drop plans to reintegrate unless they got their way.

The anticipated deal with Paris will mean that France will formally announce its reintegration at the Nato summit in Madrid in July when invitations are to be made to Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary to join the alliance.

Confirmation that Paris has been chosen for the Nato-Russia summit came from Yevgeny Primakov, the Russian Foreign Minister, after talks yesterday with President Chirac. He said President Yeltsin had accepted an invitation to visit Paris on May 27.

## Author aspires to Spanish H-free zone

FROM GILES TREMLETT  
IN MADRID

García Márquez says spelling is redundant

SPANISH children may be dancing with joy but a proposal by Gabriel García Márquez, the Nobel laureate, to do away with spelling has caused consternation in the hallowed halls of the Royal Academy of Spain.

"Spelling should be pensioned off," the author of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* recommended. "It terrorises human beings from birth."

The illustrious members of the Royal Academy, which has acted as both protector of

the Spanish language and arbiter of orthographic acceptability for the past two centuries, have reacted with scorn. "It would make Spanish like English, a language with no rules," Luis Goytisolo, the author and academy member, complained.

Señor García Márquez said a first step towards getting rid of spelling should include the banishing of two letters from the Spanish alphabet. He suggested axing the silent and therefore useless letter H, and merging the B with the V, which are pronounced more or less the same. Were his

proposals to win acceptance, Spanish greetings would never be the same. ¡Hola! would become ¡Ola!, and ¡Bienvenido! (Welcome) would have to be either ¡Bienbenido! or ¡Vienvenido!

Señor García Márquez made his call before King Juan Carlos of Spain and an audience of academics gathered at the International Congress of the Spanish Language in Mexico. His ideas went down well with Latin American academics. "Spelling is used to oppress people," Raúl Ávila, the Mexican linguist, enthused.

## Two named over Calvi death

FROM RICHARD OWEN  
IN ROME

MAGISTRATES in Rome yesterday issued arrest warrants for two mafiosi allegedly involved in the death of Roberto Calvi, the Vatican-linked financier known as "God's Banker", who was found hanging under Blackfriars Bridge, London, in 1982.

The warrants were served on Pippo "The Cashier" Calò and Flavio Carboni, described as a Rome businessman. Calò, a Cosa Nostra member, is already in prison for gangland crimes. Signor Carboni was

recently extradited to Italy from Switzerland on charges relating to the collapse of Banco Ambrosiano, which Calvi ran. He was not immediately arrested, but his home was searched.

Reports said the arrest warrants were the result of information given to police by Francesco Marino Mannoia, a Mafia supergrass.

The coroner's court in London which investigated Calvi's death was unable to decide if he had taken his own life or been murdered. During an Italian government crackdown on Cosa Nostra last

summer, Francesco "Frank the Strangler" Di Carlo, a leading Mafia gangster, reportedly confessed to killing Calvi, who had been president of Banco Ambrosiano, which was, in effect, run by the Mafia and collapsed with huge debts in 1982.

Di Carlo was arrested in Britain in 1987 and sentenced to 25 years for drugs trafficking, but was extradited to Italy last June. Police said at the time that they believed the Mafia had wanted Calvi dead because he pocketed money invested by Mafia bosses in Banco Ambrosiano.

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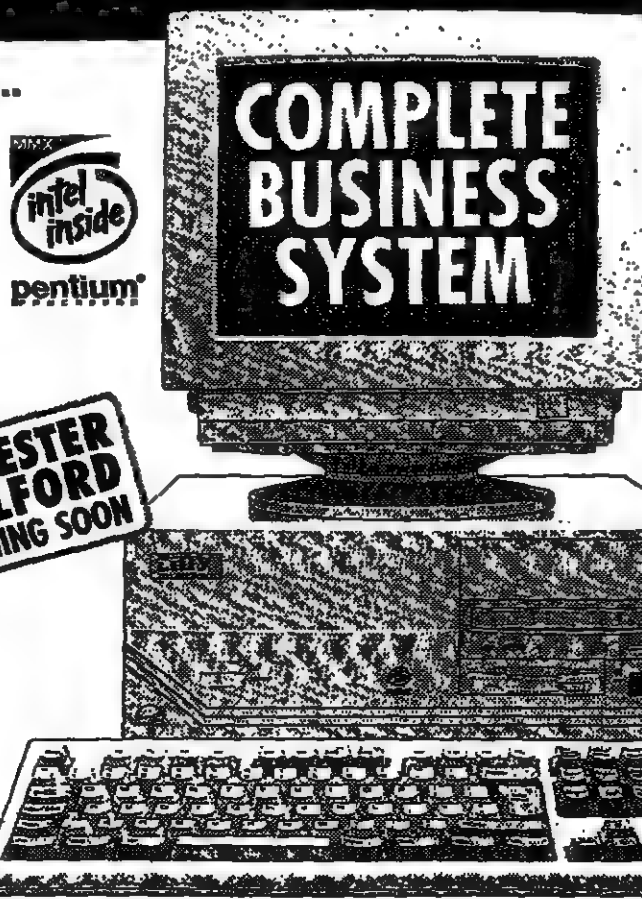
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## New Hong Kong leaders plan curbs on parties and protests

FROM CATHERINE FIELD IN HONG KONG

HONG KONG'S pro-democracy leaders and human rights monitors reacted with dismay yesterday after the government-in-waiting unveiled plans to rein in political parties and tighten police control over street protests.

The proposed changes to civil liberties laws will prohibit political groups from having links with or accepting advice from foreign organisations and ban party members from soliciting or accepting funds abroad. The changes will also mean that political parties will have to obtain approval from the authorities to operate and the police will have power to refuse applications for political protests.

Under the proposed laws, political parties could be banned if they are deemed to breach, among other things, "national security" and "public safety". Organisers of demonstrations of more than 30 people will have to apply seven days in advance and receive police approval.

"The proposal constitutes a further deprivation of basic human rights now enjoyed in Hong Kong," Albert Ho, a Democratic Party legislator, said. Beijing's first aim, he said, was to outlaw his party and the Hong Kong Alliance in Support of the Patriotic Movement in China, a group that backs China's pro-democracy movement. The Democratic Party is the biggest political group in Hong Kong.

The Democratic Party and

the alliance will be targeted first. But I am afraid more international groups and local groups will be targeted afterwards," Mr Ho said.

The proposals come after a high-profile fundraising trip to the United States and Canada by Democratic Party legislators. The party raised more than £184,000 during the 18-day tour.

The ban on links abroad could also be used against organisations with affiliations to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and pressure groups. Amnesty International condemned the proposals as "retrogressive".

The changes to the Societies and Public Order Ordinances came in the wake of a resolution by China's parliament, the National People's Congress (NPC), that Hong Kong's liberal civil liberties laws could not be adopted into the territory's statutes after the handover. The proposals had been sketched by Tung Chee-hwa, the Chief Executive designate, with China's backing.

An official of the incoming government issued a warning that the territory's long-running stability and prosperity made it "easy to forget that being a small and open economy, Hong Kong is extremely vulnerable to external forces". Links with Taiwan would also be banned if the law were introduced unaltered.

Emily Lau, a pro-democracy legislator, condemned proposals to force organisations to seek police approval for demonstrations and feared the laws could prevent people airing grievances on government policy. "Tung is talking about striking the right balance, but many Hong Kong people would argue that we already have the right balance."

Chris Patten, the Governor, last night challenged his post-handover successor to assert Hong Kong's right to autonomy and not bow to pressure from China. "The NPC is an important body but the NPC is not Moses bringing the tablets down from the top of the mountain," Mr Patten said.



Tung: accused of bowing to pressure from Beijing

## Japanese nuclear site raided after cover-up

FROM ROBERT WHYMAN IN TOKYO

GOVERNMENT investigators yesterday raided a nuclear fuel reprocessing company after it emerged that officials had concealed the truth about Japan's worst nuclear accident.

The raid was ordered by Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Prime Minister, infuriated that the state-run Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corporation, or Donen, had instigated a cover-up for the second time in 18 months.

"I am so angry," the visibly irritated Prime Minister said. "I don't want to hear the word Donen. We will get outside consultants to conduct a full investigation."

Officials of Donen, which manages the reprocessing of nuclear fuel, have admitted that they falsified a report about a fire and explosion on March 11 at the Tokaimura nuclear complex, 100 miles northeast of Tokyo. Thirty-seven workers were exposed to radiation in the accident, which occurred in a bituminisation plant where low-level nuclear waste is mixed with asphalt for storage in drums.

The official Donen report, on March 21, said staff at the plant visually confirmed that the fire had been extinguished. Nine hours later the blaze flared up again, causing an explosion that leaked radiation into the atmosphere.

Yesterday Donen executives admitted that nobody had confirmed that the fire had been put out. "We knew it was untrue, but we thought it impossible to change the report once it was made official," Osamu Yamamura, head of the Tokaimura plant, said. "This incident filled me with shame." The Tokaimura plant has been closed indefinitely.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Iraq breaks ban to fly pilgrims

Nicosia: Iraq violated a seven-year-old United Nations air embargo for the first time yesterday when it allowed a plane carrying 104 pilgrims to Mecca to fly to Saudi Arabia (Michael Theodorou writes). The kingdom feels duty-bound to welcome all pilgrims, although it backed the embargo.

### Poorest region

Islamabad: South Asia is the poorest and most illiterate region in the world, yet its governments use scarce resources to buy weapons instead of alleviating poverty, a UN report says. (AP)

### Vietnam bomb

Hanoi: A cluster bomb left over from the Vietnam War, which ended in 1975, killed seven children and injured 34 when it exploded as they left school in the northern province of Nghe An. (AFP)

### Nigeria 'lawless'

Geneva: UN rights investigators said Nigeria's rule of law was near collapse and urged the Government to halt extrajudicial killings and arbitrary arrests, and to free political prisoners. (Reuters)

### Coining it in

New York: An 1804 silver dollar, one of only 15 known to exist, has sold at auction for a record \$1.8 million (£1.1 million). The coin was owned by Louis E. Eliasberg, a financier who died in 1976. (AP)

### Dying for help

Beijing: A shepherd who found a protected snow leopard killing his flock left it for six days. By the time help arrived in Taxkorgan, Xinjiang province, 20 sheep had been eaten. (AFP)



Students leave their classes at Dhaka University yesterday to rejoice at Bangladesh's semi-final victory in the ICC tournament in Kuala Lumpur

## One killed as cricket fans mark victory

FROM REUTERS IN DHAKA

AT LEAST one man was killed in violence set off by Bangladeshi cricket fans celebrating the national team's semi-final win over Scotland yesterday in the International Cricket Conference's tournament in Malaysia.

Police said the unidentified man was fatally stabbed after he sprayed coloured water on passers-by in the Farmgate area of Dhaka.

More than 100 people were injured after a series of firecracker explosions and clashes between revellers and protesters in Dhaka and the port city of Chittagong, police said. At least 170 "mad fans" were arrested in Dhaka alone. Witnesses said that girls caught up in the celebrations had to fend off enthusiastic boys chasing them.

"It's the biggest celebration since independence in 1971," said a journalist in the southern town of Khulna.

The final is on Saturday.

Match report, page 42

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**Dr Thomas Stuttford** on support for cancer patients; treatment for loose teeth that acts like rooting powder in the garden; the side-effects of an epilepsy drug; taking temperatures through the ear

## Advice on cancer is just a call away

**D**espite improvements in the treatment of cancer of the ovary, and the partial protection against this disease provided by taking the Pill, the number of deaths from it has doubled since 1941. Fatal cases now outnumber the combined totals of cancer of the cervix (neck) and the body of the uterus combined.

The causes of cancer of the ovary are unknown but they are more common in those whose ovulation has not been suppressed by pregnancies or the Pill. The longer a woman ovulates, the slightly greater is the risk of cancer of the ovary. The incidence is increased if periods start early or the menopause is late.

Family history of cancer of the ovary, breast or endometrium (lining of the womb) accounts for one per cent of patients who develop ovarian cancer. If a woman has two close relatives with cancer of the ovary, she has a 40 per cent chance of developing it, too. This cancer is most common between the ages of 45-70, but 50 per cent of those with a family history develop it before they are 30.

The late Dr Vicky Clement-Jones and Susan Daniel, an opera singer, are exceptions to the rule as they were among the 3 per cent of patients who have cancer of the ovary diagnosed while they are under the age of 35.

Dr Clement-Jones already had a double first from Cambridge when she went to St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, for clinical training. She was a senior registrar in the department of endocrinology at Bart's, and strongly tipped for an early professorship, when cancer was diagnosed. The tumour was well established when found but, despite this, she had two trouble-free

years. Cancer of the ovary is insidious and is usually detected only when it is large enough to cause abdominal pain and distension and after screening with ultrasound. The detection of chemical markers in the blood are being developed.

When the cancer returned, Dr Clement-Jones realised that she no longer wanted to follow the traditional academic path. The cancer had provided her with a new goal. As a patient, she had discovered that the amount of advice provided by even the most helpful doctors and nurses was inadequate to answer all the questions that cancer patients want to ask. Many worries struck patients only after they had returned home from a visit to the clinic and the anxiety would remain until their next appointment.

Dr Clement-Jones decided to start an organisation which would supplement the support provided by doctors. The organisation, Backup, was to be staffed by full-time nurses who had specialised in the treatment of cancer, and they would reply by telephone or letter to patients' queries.

The nurses had access to 200 doctors who were skilled in treating cancer and were prepared to spend time with them discussing the problems of any particular patient. The third arm of the organisation was to provide counsellors who would be prepared to give long consultations if necessary to relieve a patient's fears. Backup, which is supported almost entirely by voluntary donations, now flourishes.

In Dr Clement-Jones's last few months of life, she met Susan Daniel, who had recovered from cancer of the ovary in 1970 only later to develop a tumour of the endometrium. Susan



Susan Daniel is so grateful for the help she received from Backup that she is performing at the organisation's charity recital

was first alerted to the ovarian cancer when she began to develop lower abdominal pain and noticed that her girth was increasing. By the time of surgery her waistband was 54 in and when the surgeon removed both ovaries, which were cancerous, he drained away 14 pints of fluid. Susan's recovery was uneventful but in 1984 she was found to have an endometrial tumour. (There is a link between cancer of the ovary and of the endometrium.)

Once again Susan has made a complete recovery and is unlikely to have any further trouble. When she met Dr Clement-Jones she promised that she would do all she could to repay

the help she had received from Backup.

Christie's, the auctioneers, is supporting Backup by subsidising a charity recital in its aid, which will be given in its Great Rooms in St James's. Susan will honour her commitment to Dr Clement-Jones by singing at the recital on April 21.

Each year Backup advises more than 100,000 people who have used its freephone helpline (0800 181199), which is open from 9.00am to 7.00pm Monday to Friday.

● Tickets (£50 for the Backup recital on April 21 may be obtained from Backup, 3 Bath Place, Rivington St, London EC2A 3JR (0171-696-9003).

It can be difficult to take the temperature of a young child, the very old or those who are delirious, comatose or unconscious. In these groups an accurate reading can be made only by inserting the thermometer into the rectum; underarm temperatures are unreliable, and suggesting that a child, or a demented adult, might put a thermometer under the tongue causes obvious problems.

But however useful rectal temperature taking is, it does

### Lend me your ear...

raise the question as to whether E coli 157 bacteria, or anything else which might contaminate the instrument, are really killed by dipping it into metholated spirits.

Braun has now produced a battery operated instant electrical thermometer, the Thermo Scan, for household use.

### Epilepsy drug warning

MORE than 800,000 patients have been treated for epilepsy with Lamotrigine Lamictal. It has a broad spectrum of action, and is effective for a wide variety of seizures.

Lamictal causes less tiredness than older anti-epileptic drugs, and is therefore useful to those who need to concentrate. Also, it does not cause unwanted hair growth in women, and it doesn't interfere with the Pill.

However, no drug is without side-effects and although Lamictal largely voids the problem of excessive tiredness experienced by those taking older treatments, it has its own particular side-effects, which were highlighted in press reports last week.

Monitoring of these effects has shown that the incidence of serious skin reactions is more common than had been thought, although the increase applies only when the drug is used in the treatment of children under 12.

In young children the numbers at risk from severe skin troubles may be between one in 100 and one in 300. The estimated risk for adults remains unchanged at one in 1,000. The treatment is particularly likely to cause trouble when combined with other drugs as an "add-on" preparation, or when the doctor has recommended that an above normal sized dose is used.

The Thermo Scan fits snugly into the outer part of the ear hole. The middle ear shares its blood vessels with the hypothalamus, the temperature control centre of the brain, and this makes the recording particularly accurate.

The ear hole has the advantage of being rather cleaner than the other orifices used, it is dry, and by using it the risk of bowel perforation, which has happened in fractious patients, is avoided.

## The root of the problem

**A** new dental treatment is being introduced from Sweden which promises to perform the same function for dentists treating teeth loosened by old age or gum disease as rooting powder does for the gardener when he dips the end of a cutting into it before planting. Emdogain, is a protein which stimulates the same process which binds the teeth of babies to the jaw.

The shape of the lower jaw is changing. The strong firm lines of the hero in a Bulldog Drummond film are less common in this generation than in the last and progressively, as the years pass, jaws are now being developed which would better suit characters from P.G. Wodehouse. It is to be expected that being a chinless wonder limits sex appeal, but less obviously it also has an effect on the health of the teeth and gums.

Although jaws are becoming lighter and more delicate the teeth seem as strong and large, possibly even larger, than previously. The mouth is therefore overcrowded and one of the casualties of this are the wisdom teeth.

The high incidence of impacted wisdom teeth in the present generation which need treatment is, according to research work from the celebrated Karolinska Institute at the University of Stockholm, part of the evidence that the strength of the jaw is changing. The impaction of the wisdom teeth is frequently the start of a persistently infected gum in late adolescence and early adult life.

However powerful the jaw is in youth, in old age it suffers from osteoporosis just as much as other bones, and as it



Babies use Emdogain for binding

does so, the jawbone shrinks away from the teeth. As the jawbone shrinks gaps appear around the teeth and into these pockets epithelium grows, food collects and a chronic infective state is induced. The bleeding soggy gums increase the looseness of the tooth which in time may fall out, thereby confirming Shakespeare's description in *As You Like It* of old age as being sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste and sans everything.

Dentists have traditionally seen the infected gum with pockets forming around the tooth as the primary cause of loose teeth and have recommended a variety of remedial measures. Many doctors on the other hand think of the diseased gum as a secondary symptom of underlying bone loss, or malformation, and regard it as the fundamental

cause of the infection, and hence the insecure teeth.

Emdogain the protein which stimulates tooth detachment, has been prepared from animal, but not bovine, sources. The application of Emdogain to the roots results in regeneration of all the tissues around the tooth root. The acellular cementum, the covering of the tooth root is given new life and collagen fibres thereafter extend from it into the newly regenerated bone around the tooth socket. The process once again makes tooth fast within the jawbone.

Emdogain is easy to use. After it has been decided the case is suitable, a flap of gum is raised, the area around the tooth and the root gently cleaned and the gel applied to the clean blood and saliva root surface. The wound heals remarkably quickly. Patients notice the improvement with their teeth within a month, within six months this improvement can be demonstrated on X-rays and within 16 months, two-thirds of the looseness has been redressed. Within three years 70 per cent of the lost attachment has been regained.

Not all gum disease has its origins in osteoporosis, or overcrowded wisdom teeth in feeble jaws. A lack of dental hygiene in youth, whether its inadequate cleaning or failure to have fillings done on time by the dentist, accounts for a significant proportion of cases.

Some drugs will also cause gum hyperplasia which makes them soggy. One new hypotensive drug, a calcium-channel blocker used to treat high blood pressure, also induces soft spongy receding gums, which are vulnerable to infection.

### More help is on the way for migraine sufferers

THE competition between pharmaceutical firms to treat the six million British people who have migraine is hotting up.

Recently a nasal spray preparation of Imigran, which acts more quickly than tablets, has been introduced by Glaxo. This week Zeneca, previously ICI, has launched Zomig zolmitriptan tablets.

Zeneca claims that Zomig is effective if taken at any time during a migraine attack and that as well as relieving headache it usually rids the patients of other symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting and visual disturbances.

As with Imigran, it can cause tightness in the chest and throat, but there is no evidence that this is cardiac pain. Even so, it is not



Pain like this can be treated

recommended for those with coronary heart disease, or in patients with some forms of arrhythmia.

It is rumoured that before the end of the year there will be two or three other anti-migraine products available on prescription by their doctors for patients.



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# Why football is about to score an own goal

Football has changed from tribal bonding on the terraces to just another million-pound 'leisure' industry — but only at the top. Jason Cowley reports

Once the poor relation of European football, the English game is clearly wealthier than at any time in its history. The Sky television millions, the merchandising sales bonanza, Euro 96, increased gate receipts, Fever Pitch, Fantasy Football League, Gazza's tears — all have helped to create a climate in which the stock market value of quoted football clubs has quadrupled to £2.5 billion in less than ten months.

Manchester United, the financial powerhouse of the FA Carling Premiership, this week reaffirmed why so many of its rivals are considering a public flotation by announcing six-month profits up by 42.5 per cent to almost £19.5 million — a figure greater than the annual turnover of all but four English clubs.

Since floating in 1991, United's shares have risen steadily from the issue price of 77p to their current value of about 645p, a period in which it has inspired a remarkable transformation of the English game.

Consider the wages being demanded by the German striker Jürgen Klinsmann and you get a sense of how radically football has altered since the leading clubs broke away from the old Football League to form the FA Premier League in 1992. The canny Klinsmann

is thought to want a basic salary of £50,000 per week, plus his own helicopter, if he is to return to the FA Carling Premiership after two years with Bayern Munich. In the inflated, looking-glass world of English football, what disturbs most about Klinsmann's demands is that no one seems to find them disturbing. Most of the leading players earn considerably more than £1 million a year before bonuses and endorsements — a fact not lost on Pierre van Hooijdonk, the Dutch international who earlier this year rejected Celtic's offer of a new contract worth £7,000 a week thus: "That might be good enough for the homeless, but it is certainly not enough for a top international."

Manchester United's manager, Alex Ferguson, says: "For most Premiership players, a year's pay is like a pool's win and for the top men it's just about a lottery win, too."

Wage inflation is one of the consequences that followed the introduction of all-seat stadiums and the foundation of the Premier League. Another, of course, is the number of clubs that have floated or are considering floating on the stock

market. As Manchester United's manager, Alex Ferguson, says: "For most Premiership players, a year's pay is like a pool's win and for the top men it's just about a lottery win, too."

Despite a poor profits record and a deficit on transfers of £40 million over the past four years, Newcastle still achieved a market value of £193 million, putting the club in second spot in the stock market's football

clubs like West Ham and Coventry are spending millions on transfers to avoid relegation, and first division clubs like Wolves are spending millions to win promotion. As a result, wage bills are rising. That frantic quest for instant success cannot be sustained, especially as pay-per-view will benefit only the top five or six teams.

Mark Palios, a former professional footballer and now a partner specialising in football club management at the accountants Coopers & Lybrand, estimates that the sector is overvalued by up to £1 billion. Indications suggest that the City may be coming round to that view: Sunderland and Queens Park Rangers, for instance, floated at the end of 1996, but their shares are already valued at less than the

issue price. Charlton Athletic, which went public last month, has seen a 25 per cent drop in its market value.

Millwall, which raised £5 million from a flotation in 1989, has fared even worse and is now in the hands of the receivers. The south London club's flotation coincided with promotion to the old first division and was used to fund a new stadium and the purchase of a chain of pubs and clubs. "The trouble was," says Carl Prosser, co-editor of the club's fanzine *The Lion Roars*, "we got relegated in the following season and never recovered. The new stadium was supposed to be used as a venue for rock concerts and other sporting events, but only one event has ever been held there and that was a failure."

"The decision to buy the Tavern Leisure chain also lost the club a lot of money. We have had to sell our best players so that the club could pay its debts. We are now struggling in the second division. The whole saga has been a catalogue of mismanagement and overambition."

Prosser's may be a forlorn voice raised in protest against modern cant, but his anxieties chime with many fans of small clubs. Certainly, if you look beyond the frenzied hyperbole of the Premiership, the sense of decline is palpable. A sad twilight is settling on the lower divisions. Later this month, the accountants Deloitte & Touche will deliver a report, commissioned by the Football League, showing that as many as 25 clubs are on the edge of bankruptcy.

The situation is very grave," agrees David Dent, secretary of the Football League. "Not enough money is circulating down to the lower leagues, especially as many Premiership clubs are looking overseas for players. For football to remain vibrant and for young players to come through, you must have strength outside the top division. I fear for the future."

And he is right to do so. For the age of paternalism has gone. If the big city clubs are not preoccupied preparing prospectuses, they are dreaming of the putative European super league that shimmers before them like a pot of gold. With such boundless opportunity ahead, the travails of the small clubs are little more than a minor irritant.

Perhaps, as Roy Hattersley and others suggest, football has changed so radically that the time has come for the game to find a new name in line with a more plutocratic age. Any advance on New Football?



Sir John Hall, left, Newcastle chairman, and the £15-million Alan Shearer

market as they seek literally to capitalise on the soccer boom — a trend that disillusiones those supporters more comfortable with the game's traditionally macho milieu of banked terraces and tribal bonding.

Newcastle United last week became the sixteenth club to be listed. The issue for the club, which last summer shattered the world record for a transfer by paying Blackburn Rovers £15 million for Alan Shearer, was resoundingly oversubscribed, prompting one wag to remark that football clubs are doing more than Margaret Thatcher ever did to promote a shareholding democracy. In

share line-up behind Manchester United, currently worth about £418 million.

Progressive club chairmen, such as Martin Edwards at Manchester United, and Alan Sugar at Tottenham Hotspur, view their clubs as "leisure businesses" and talk of the potential of diversification and "building the brand image". Hardly the argot of the terraces.

Not surprisingly, there is deep unease among some fans. Henry Sheen, of the Spurs Supporters' Club, says: "Many fans feel that Sugar and his board are not football men, they don't love the game like the old-style hobbyist-chairmen. Rather, their decisions are taken in the interests of the shareholder, not the team. That is why we are doing well in the eyes of the City but struggling on the pitch. We've sold our soul to the accountants."

For his part, Sugar is scornful of wanton profligacy and of clubs offering outlandish salaries to the likes of Klinsmann, with whom he fell out after the German failed to honour his contract with Tottenham. "Football at the moment is fashionable, but institutions need to look deeply into some of these clubs," he says. "There's a lot of hype going on at the moment. There will be disasters and disappointments. The clubs with the right approach will shine through... There is no room for anyone who thinks they can come along and make a quick buck."

Paul Wedge, a football analyst with the brokers Collins Stewart, agrees. He predicts that more clubs will seek a public quotation in the mistaken belief that the arrival of digital and pay-per-view television will continue to drive up profits. "My feeling, though, is that there is only a limited appetite for this type of stock. There is too much risk involved; if a club is relegated from the Premier League, millions can be wiped off the share price."

"Success is measured by getting into the Premiership and staying there. So small



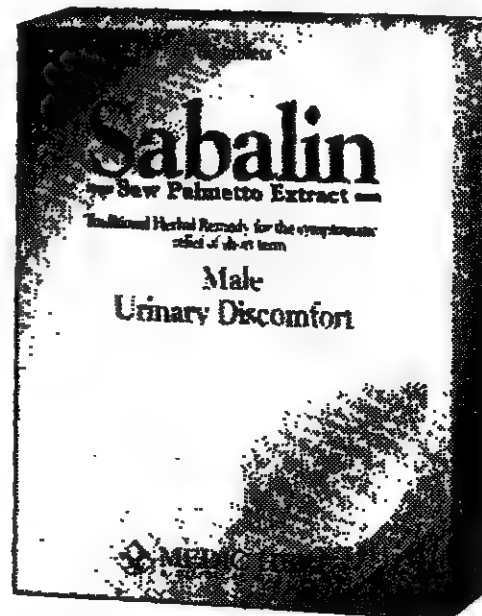
Jürgen Klinsmann is thought to want a basic salary of £50,000 per week, plus his own helicopter, to return to the Premiership

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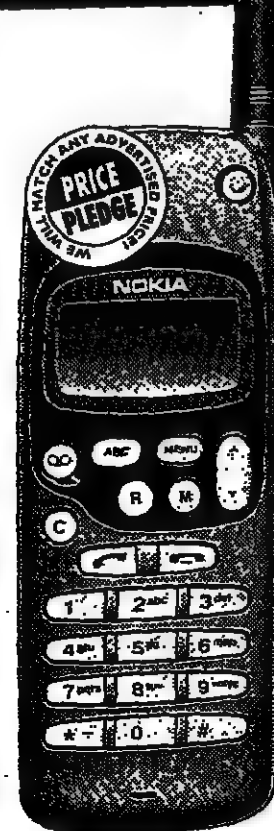


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# Morals are made in the classroom

George Carey says the debate about values must now move on

Trust has suddenly become a significant electoral word — and properly so. Behind it stands a vocabulary of moral terms that enrich the notion of trust: honesty, goodness, reliability, faithfulness and honour. This is a vocabulary to be claimed not only by politicians but by all of us. As the Chief Rabbi has put it, you cannot express yourself as a moral and spiritual person if you do not have a spiritual or moral language.

Yet our society has become morally reticent, even inarticulate. The main culprit is the popular cultural assumption that to try to define something as good and right in an absolute sense is an unwarranted and potentially oppressive incursion into a domain which should be purely private. According to this view, what is right is simply a matter of individual opinion.

Yet most of us recognise that no society can survive for long unless it is held together by standards that transcend the individual. Values and morals are social, not purely individual. They need careful nurture and a continuous process of modelling, discussion and internalisation across the generations. And, without values such as trust, honesty, consideration for other people, love of justice and peace, there can be no individual liberty, because there can be no orderly society within which individuals can grow and express themselves in interdependence with others.

If the citizens of a country do not internalise the responsibility to behave fairly and peacefully towards other people, there is no external power on earth that can secure peace and justice. And in my experience, the vast majority of people, even if they articulate the cultural assumption that morality is a purely private affair, actually have strong beliefs about some things that are absolutely good and others that are absolutely evil.

Here, let me make an important distinction. As a society we do not agree on one single source of authority which legitimises the values we hold in common. But this is a fundamentally different proposition from saying that we have no shared values any more.

We have seen recently in the Schools Curriculum and Assessment Authority's report, and the ensuing discussion, that it is possible and normal to have different views of authority and of particular ethical questions and yet to have strong shared values which we can build on together for the good of all.

I understand that from the large and heterogeneous group responding to the authority's forum, and much to the surprise of some of those attending, a substantial consensus emerged about a whole series of values. I do not agree that these values are bland or uninteresting, although they need illustration, dramatisation and human modelling to bring them to life. The values relate to the healthy functioning of society, our relationships with other people, our

understanding and development of ourselves as individuals and our approach to the environment and future generations.

The final report from SCAA's National Forum should be a significant item for an incoming government. It is important to be clear about what the report claims to be. It seeks to describe what the shared values of a wide cross-section of society are. That is different from saying what they should be. As a Christian leader, for example, I know of plenty of additional Christian teachings which I would wish to add and which no doubt Church schools will add.

It would be wrong to burden schools with unrealistic expectations of what they can achieve by themselves. Already, in general, schools are very moral places by comparison with most aspects of society outside the school gate. Nevertheless, because there are many pressures to make education more utilitarian, we need to insist on a rounded concept of education, as set out in the 1988 Education Act. We want people who leave school to be good citizens and good neighbours, not just skilled hands and effective contributors to the economy.

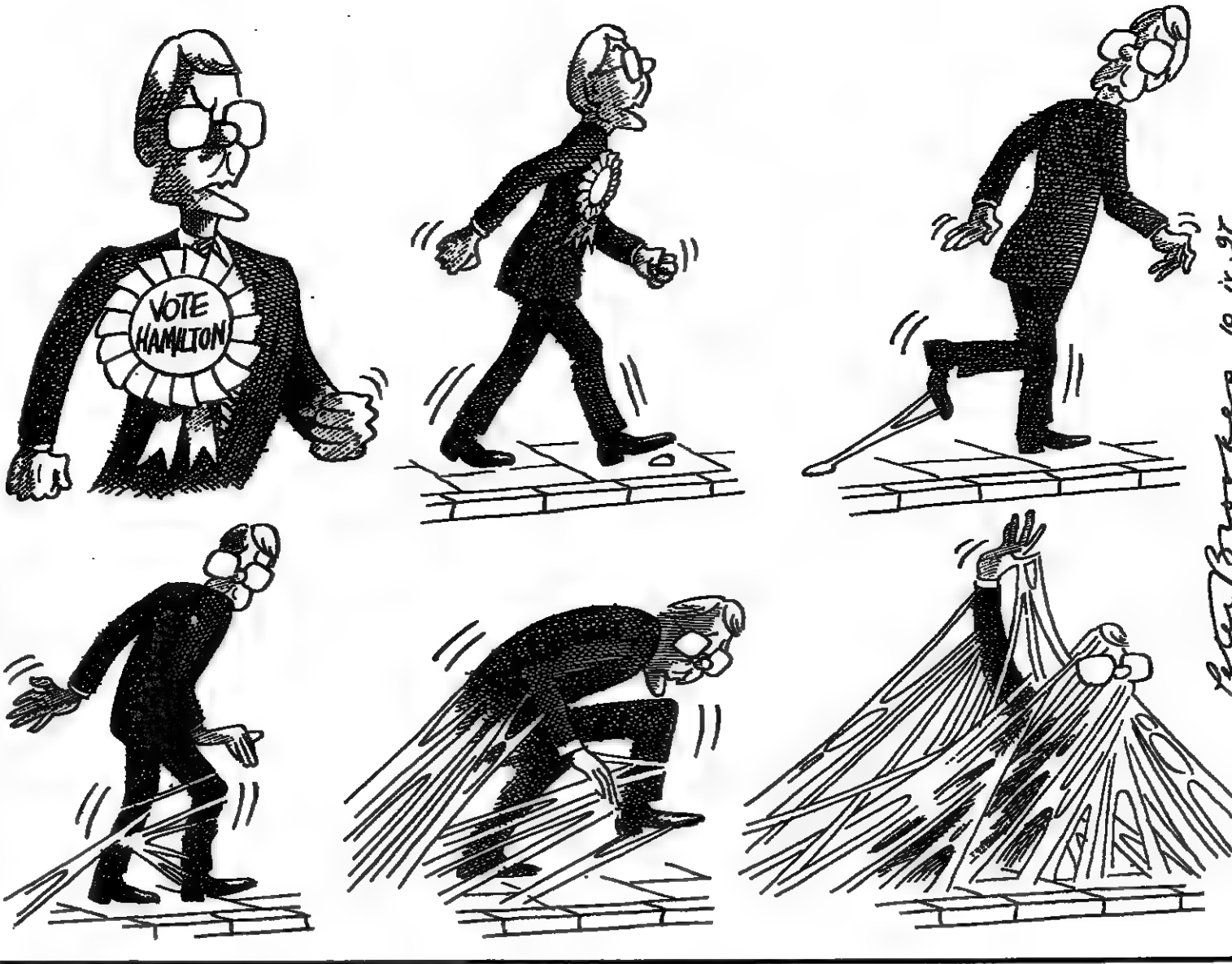
I am wary about discussing any one subject as a symbol of the moral. I am, however, aware of controversy about the treatment of marriage in the report. The document says that we should support families in raising children and caring for dependants; we should support the institution of marriage; and we should recognise that the love and commitment required for a secure and happy childhood can also be found in families of different kinds.

I and many others would not doubt want to make additional and stronger points if we were setting out our own full beliefs, but I have no difficulty in accepting the statement of the forum as a consensus that exists now.

The specific mention of support for the institution of marriage can be translated into a great deal of new thinking and classroom work about marriage: why it is important, what it needs in order to flourish and what people entering marriage need to think about. I believe that the time has come to stop arguing about particular words in the statement and to move on to the vital task of considering what the implications of the words are for the curriculum, activities and ethos of schools.

I want to emphasise that the development of such a considerable consensus on shared values is a major step forward in empowering schools. We need these values to be transmitted confidently and positively. In a society disfigured by widespread moral confusion and false theories of privatised morality, that is a most significant prize.

The Archbishop of Canterbury will speak on values and the curriculum at the London Institute of Education today.



## Who's colonising whom?

Hong Kong could tip the balance in favour of China's modernisers

The moment of history is approaching in Hong Kong. In 81 days the term of British government will be over, and the territory, with its six million people, will be handed over to China. Whoever deserves the credit, and Britain deserves much of it, modern Hong Kong is a staggering achievement, one of the four or five great financial centres of the world, a small island which has developed an economy approximately the size of Switzerland's, greater wealth per head than Germany or Japan, the last and most successful of Britain's colonies. In 50 years, since India won independence, the British Empire has been wound up; nowhere does the balance sheet of the imperial experience look more favourable than in Hong Kong. No other city on earth is comparable, except New York, and New York itself was also once a prosperous trading city of the British Empire.

There is no reason for the British not to feel proud of their Hong Kong achievement. The people who have created the modern Hong Kong are indeed the Chinese who live there; they are remarkably energetic, intelligent and resilient; they have worked inside the framework of British law and government. The Hong Kong Chinese are proud that the "unequal treaty" which gave Britain Hong Kong has been rewritten, but they naturally feel anxiety about what is to come next. Hong Kong is a free society, by some measurements one of the world's two or three freest. Whatever mainland China is, it is far from that. The people of Hong Kong know that they will be somewhat less free under Chinese rule. They fear that they may be much less free.

Their mood is one of economic confidence but political anxiety. The women are more worried than the men; they are less involved in business, and they know that China is still all too much a male chauvinist culture. The business leaders are the most confident. They believe that they will be able to handle the Chinese. The Chief Executive designate, Tung Chee-hwa, is from their number, and they trust him. The ordinary people of Hong Kong are less certain; they do not have the capacity of the businessmen to deal with the new power; they do not have the passport or the funds overseas either. When one thinks of the future of Hong Kong, one needs to think of the ordinary people, not just of the

property billionaires. A billion dollars can usually look after itself. The Governor, Chris Patten, is amazingly popular with the ordinary people, and pretty unpopular with most of the billionaires. The rich businessmen think that he ought to have done much more to conciliate China. Their assets have multiplied while he has been Governor, but the tycoons feel they might have been endangered. Recent opinion polls have shown that the ordinary people feel that the Governor has fought for them — his diplomatic critics dismiss that as "populism". A recent poll showed that the outgoing Governor Patten is more popular than the incoming Chief Executive Tung. A special survey taken as part of an academic study of the handover has shown that the outgoing government currently has a 71 per cent approval rating.

Last Sunday evening I was returning by cab from an informal dinner at Government House. The Chinese driver expressed his feeling of nostalgia at the ending of British rule in Hong Kong. "The golden time is past," he said. "He has been a good Governor. His government has been a good government, even when it has been wrong. The old government may have been more polite to China, but they never got anything done." The pity is that Britain left the Patten policy so late. For that earlier failure of political imagination, cooler and more elitist officials must take the responsibility.

It is probable that the economic optimism of Hong Kong will continue to be justified. The Chinese economy has been growing at a rate close to 10 per cent a year for the past 15 years. Since 1980 it has quadrupled in size, and it will probably quadruple again by about 2015, by which time China will have become one of the world's two economic superpowers. The next two decades will probably see a similar multiplication of the wealth of Hong Kong. Hong Kong's commercial and financial growth is not over; it will only slow

down when China becomes a fully mature industrial economy. Even political problems are unlikely to interrupt this economic growth.

There will however be political problems in Hong Kong itself, apart from the much greater issues of the political development of China. The transfer of sovereignty will immediately reduce the existing freedoms. No fewer than 25 changes will be made to the four main pieces of legislation which cover the registration of societies, public order, human rights and subversion. The democratic parties are opposed to these amendments. There is a risk of demonstrations against the changes, but if people gather without a permit after July 1, they will be liable to be arrested. The people of Hong Kong want to extend democracy, but the Chinese Government wants to exercise political control.

The political development of China will decide the political future of Hong Kong. There is evidence in favour of an optimistic view. On Monday evening I was seated next to a young American woman who had spent the previous weekend in Beijing meeting Chinese students of her own age. She told me that she was surprised and delighted by their openness and friendliness towards the West. She said that they were very enthusiastic about the return of Hong Kong to China, because they saw Hong Kong as a powerful influence in the modernisation of their country.

Pro-Chinese politicians in Hong Kong make much the same case for optimism. They say that China is already being run at the executive level by young administrators and managers who have been trained either in the United States or by people who have themselves been educated there. This generation is content to let the older generation run its course, but it has its own model of modernisation. People talk of this process rather than one might feel about old and new Labour, with the younger Chinese waiting for the old men to retire so that they can

privatise state industry, remove controls, reform the legal system, extend voting, open up information, and do all the things that a modern economy requires. The students of Tiananmen Square are now themselves in their early thirties, and have largely gone into private businesses. Among them are some of the "brightest and best" of young China.

The more pessimistic view is that the political future of China will follow a course rather like that of Indonesia, and that China will become an authoritarian regime, rather than totalitarian, based largely on the army and extensively corrupt. That would be bad for Hong Kong, and would undoubtedly reduce Hong Kong's attraction as an international centre. But it would be still worse for China, and the young generation in China knows that.

My own hope is that the influence of Hong Kong will tip the balance in favour of genuine political modernisation. Hong Kong has, after all, already become modern. The people of Hong Kong understand the relationship between political freedom and a modern economic society. Hong Kong already has its network of relationships with the coming generation in China, and could be the model for the necessary next stage of Chinese development.

Not only for China. The Hong Kong model, with its freedom and encouragement of business, has much to offer Britain and the rest of Europe. If the present decline of the European Union is to be reversed, Hong Kong is probably the best example of a successful modern society. Yet the modernisation of Europe is becoming almost as big an issue as the modernisation of China.

Of course Hong Kong is different from anywhere else, but the principles that have been so successful are the same everywhere, and where they have been applied they have worked. Low taxes, high savings, responsibility, good health and education services, but at low cost, with small government, light regulation, liberty and law, a constant attack on corruption, free markets and incentives to work — these are the Adam Smith virtues. The great hope is they will inspire China. At least one can say that the last British Governor of Hong Kong has been a loyal advocate of the Hong Kong principles.

## Mr W.S.'s election lie guide

Magnus Linklater on how to catch the scurvy politicians

Here is a checklist for anyone still following the daily jousts between candidates and the media, as the politicians twist and turn to conceal their weaknesses and to vilify their opponents. Touchstone would instantly recognise the type. In *As You Like It*, he ticked them off to perfection: "I will name the degrees. The first, the Retort Courteous; the second, the Quip Modest; the third, the Reply Churlish; the fourth, the Reproof Valiant; the fifth, the Countercheck Quarrelsome; the sixth, the Lie with Circumstance; the seventh, the Lie Direct. All these you may avoid, but the Lie Direct; and you may avoid that too, with an 'If'."

They have all been on display. The Retort Courteous is the one given by the politician caught by a tricky question which attempts to pin him down on the cost of some measure. It involves referring the question to a previous answer, preferably buried in a document published some time ago and which may not quite address the point raised. By the time the document is located and the matter looked up, the moment will have passed. "We've got an independent consultant's report on that," said a Scottish Nationalist yesterday. "It was published 18 months ago and we're happy to distribute it to you." Whether it addressed the matter or not was never pursued. Even if it had been, I wonder whether we would have been any the wiser.

The Quip Modest is that tell-tale chuckle and the shake of the head which says, "Oh no, not that old chestnut, don't tell me you've been taken in by it again, when will you press chappies ever learn?" It is usually enough to get everyone else on the platform joining in disbelieving laughter as they search desperately for the answer. Michael Heseltine is the best practitioner, because that baffled shake of the tawny locks as he considers the naivety of the question conceals the fact that what comes out in reply is more often political invective than a direct response.

The Reply Churlish turns a perfectly reasonable point back against the questioner, implying that some devious political motive renders the issue irrelevant. Robin Cook was up to it yesterday on Radio 4's phone-in, when he twice rebuked a listener for asking whether new Labour might have a hidden left-wing programme. That, he pointed out, was a typically loaded question bearing all the hallmarks of a Tory plant. He never got round to addressing the point itself, but simply left the impression that those who had raised it were mere paid propagandists. I doubt if he won many votes, but he certainly avoided the question.

The Reproof Valiant indicates that the question posed reveals woeful ignorance. Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, who has a nice line in lopsided grins and teasing innuendo, used it on Tuesday when he was asked whether his proposal to increase the rates burden for large firms in order to reduce the bill for small businesses did not amount to a socialist measure. "It's very difficult to know what a socialist measure is these days," he sighed. This, however, was certainly not one. Since we had plainly failed to grasp the point, he spelt it out. The scheme was a "self-financing" measure which would not cost the taxpayer any more. So there was no question of redistributing wealth, since public funds were not involved. His audience, exposed as economically illiterate, was left to flounder as he moved briskly on.

Next, the Countercheck Quarrelsome. This is usually to be seen at Labour's press conferences when some hostile newspaper, usually *The Daily Telegraph*, comes up with an inconvenient question. "Ah, the brief from Central Office," Peter Mandelson will say, as he deflects the point. Or he will refer, even more insultingly, to "Mr Robert Stookey" when that paper's political editor, Robert Shrimmsley, has the temerity to raise his hand. This kind of pre-emptive move raises a doubt about the objectivity of the journalist and wins a laugh at the same time. And laughter is the most useful weapon in the hands of an experienced obfuscator.

The Lie with Circumstance and the Lie Direct are the most dangerous of the lot, if only because they can be, and sometimes are, exposed. They are to be used sparingly. The former can generally be spotted when the telltale phrase "if resources allow" is tacked on to an election promise. When asked whether this is not a way of dodging a commitment, the politician turns to his standard reply: "But you would not expect us to be so irresponsible as to promise something unless we were certain we could pay for it." Thus the promise remains, though it need not necessarily be fulfilled. The Lie Direct, of course, is used by every single politician who promises to hold taxes down and knows perfectly well that he will not. But he knows too that he is protected, by Touchstone's "If", which means — if elected, if things change, if forced by circumstance.

"I durst go no further than the Lie Circumstantial, nor he durst not give me the Lie Direct," says Touchstone; "and so we measured swords and parted."

## Crossroads

LORD MENUHIN and the Duke of Westminster have notched up a momentous victory against traffic planners in London's Belgrave. They have persuaded Westminster Council to reconsider a plan to drive an arterial road through their back-gardens.

The two peers have for many months been leading a campaign on behalf of the best-heeled "Nimby" pressure group in the land, with members ranging from Lord Lloyd-Webber to Baroness Thatcher and Tiny Rowland.

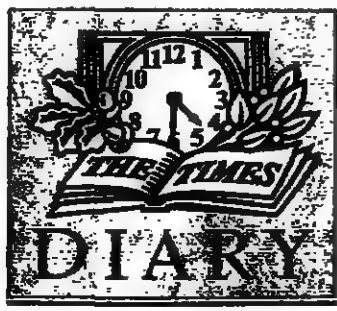
Though hardly a bunch of Swampy-style subversives, they were moved to protest when the council endorsed a plan to turn a road running through those grand addresses Chester Square and Eaton Square into a "red route" — one of the main roads for traffic into and out of London.

On Tuesday night, however, the council capitulated and agreed to spend £90,000 investigating an alternative possibility, re-routing the traffic away from the stuccoed residences of the well-to-do, some of which have sold for more than £10 million.

The Belgrave Resident's Association is cracking open its vintage

bubbly. "For the first time we have got a commitment out of Westminster Council," says Jonathan Scott-Barrett of the association. "Yehudi Menuhin has been passionate about the campaign. Everybody here will have a better quality of life."

Clare Short was sympathetic when she visited the East Leeds Women's Workshops yesterday. The workshops had all their com-



puters stolen recently, replaced them, and then had them stolen again. Short knew how they felt. Last weekend she returned to her place in London to find her TV and video had been pinched.

### Capital

HAIRY coats and cigarette-holders will be on parade at the weekend for the first visit to London of Aleksandr Lebed, Russia's exotic former security chief. On Friday evening he will turn to the bosom of capitalism and attend a private dinner hosted by Robert Fleming's bank. On Saturday, he attends an economic conference at the Dorchester, where he will be introduced by the world chess champion Garry Kasparov. And he is also expected to show up at a meeting of the European Bank for Re-

construction and Development. Over at the Russian Embassy, the lugubrious press officer, Boris Malakhov, sounds unimpressed: "I'm sure he'll pop in, but it's nothing to do with us." Perhaps he should head up towards Tatton and stand as an Independent Bolshevik candidate.

As stunts go, this could prove a chilly one: 25 women are planning to walk the Flora London Marathon wearing nothing but a Wonderbra above the waist. The bras have been custom-made to designs



Lebed: hairy

by well-known names such as Gary Linaker, the Spice Girls and Lennox Lewis. Richard Branson's contribution to the gimmick to raise funds for Breast Cancer, ranks as the most childish: a large hot air balloon attached to each cup.

### Tall story

THERE is a nasty air in Hammer-smith, where Tories have been putting it around that the Labour candidate, Ian Coleman, is a sex industry heir. He is being described as a real Paul Raymond. "There is absolutely no truth in this whatsoever," says a flushed Coleman. But did his father not make a fortune from the Ann Summers sex toy business? He worked for them for a while ten or fifteen years ago, that's all. This whole story is a cheap smear.

### Girl talk

MARLENE DIETRICH'S family are upset by the musical about the singer which opened at the Lyric Theatre in London on Tuesday night. In *Marlene*, Stan Phillips puts in an impressive turn as the dewy-eyed chanteuse, while Lou Gish plays her female sidekick, Vivian Hoffman. In portraying



Marlene: ripped off

this relationship, the show implies that Dietrich was more gander than goose behind closed doors.

Peter Riva, Dietrich's grandson, is disappointed. "They have to make something salacious to sell the tickets," he says from New York. He adds that the show is yet another commercial venture which "rips off my grandmother's original material. We get a little hacked off with it in the end."

P-H-S











## OBITUARIES

## THOMAS ATKINSON, GC

Thomas Atkinson, GC, died in Dorset on March 26 aged 81. He was born at Redcar on May 27, 1915.

In an act of bravery — and, as so often in such cases, of resourcefulness — which involved his being severely burnt, Thomas Atkinson was instrumental in controlling a serious fire which threatened loss of life and large scale destruction of Army transport on a remote mountain base in prewar Palestine. For this he was awarded the Empire Gallantry Medal, which was gazetted on July 25, 1939, and translated to the George Cross in 1941.

At that time Atkinson was serving as a corporal with the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards, in a Palestine unit which was then governed under a League of Nations Mandate by Great Britain. He was stationed at Jinsafut Camp, an isolated outpost high in the harsh, rocky terrain of the Samaritan Hills. Early in 1939 he had been put in charge of the camp's mechanised transport. In the evening of March 15, 1939, he was supervising the refuelling of eight lorries which were packed together in the close

confines of the camp's only garage, a small, narrow affair in which the lorries had to be packed far more closely together than was desirable.

The operation was made the more hazardous through the inefficient design of the Army two-gallon petrol tin, which was then standard equipment before the merciful arrival of the far superior Jerrycan (which was copied from a German design) during the North African campaign two years later. However, carefully the two-gallon can was poured, some spillage was inevitable, and in hot, arid climates, not to mention the proximity of hot exhaust pipes, this was highly dangerous.

Whether or not what happened next was a result of spontaneous combustion, or whether a disaffected Arab threw a flare into the building through the ventilation slit, was never established; but without warning a fire broke out in the middle of the garage and quickly engulfed one of the lorries. With the amount of fuel on the floor and the proximity of both the base ammunition dump and a barrack housing 60 men, the potential for catastrophe was clearly enormous. Atkinson's first action was to

order all the drivers to get their lorries out of the garage and drive them as far from the barrack and ammunition dump as possible. While this was happening the remaining troops tackled the blaze with fire extinguishers. But these could not cope with the ferocity of the flames and only five of the lorries had been got out of the garage by the time the fire had spread over the whole floor.

Atkinson ordered his men to dig up soil to throw on the flames, but in trying to do so one young soldier slipped and fell onto the burning fuel. With complete disregard for his own safety, Atkinson dived into the inferno to try to pull the man out. But at that point a petrol tank blew up and Atkinson was flung several yards through the air by the blast. Momentarily concussed, he came to, to find that he was burning from head to foot and could hardly see.

At this point, Private Thomas McAvoy, who was working closely with Atkinson, punched a hole in the petrol tank of one of the other lorries to prevent it from exploding, sustaining burns as he did so. He, too, was awarded the Empire Gallantry Medal for his courage

and quick thinking on that day. The citation to Atkinson's decoration acknowledged the fact that without his initiative which had brought the bulk of the trucks to safety and his intelligent efforts to keep the blaze under control, the whole camp might most probably have been destroyed by fire and explosions, with heavy loss of life.

Thomas Atkinson was born at Redcar, northeast Yorkshire, into a family which had long associations with the sea, as fishermen and as crew of the celebrated Redcar lifeboat. He was educated at school locally and then had a number of bits and pieces jobs in the Depression years — particularly severe in that depressed area of the country.

But the Army offered an escape from this existence and in November 1933 he made his way to Richmond (Yorkshire) to enlist in the Green Howards, which has its headquarters in the town. During a period while his battalion was posted to Dorset he met and married a local girl, Doreen Bowen.

After the incident at Jinsafut, Atkinson was invalided back to Britain and spent much time thereafter in hospital receiving

treatment for his severe burns. These effectively ended his service career and before the end of the war he was invalided out of the Army and returned to live in the Portland area. There he worked as an Admiralty driver, a job which took him out to Singapore for a number of years in the 1950s. Subsequently he was employed as a stone sawyer in the Portland stone industry.

In retirement at Weston, Portland, after 1965, he maintained contact with his regiment and was also a great supporter of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association. A quiet and unassuming man, he enjoyed a game of billiards or snooker at his local Conservative Club (though that choice of venue had nothing to do with his political affiliations). A bench dedicated to him at Portland last year recalls his deed in the South of England, while in his native northeast a plaque outside the Redcar and Cleveland council chamber in Eston town hall celebrates him and two other sons of the district who received the highest awards for valour.

Atkinson's wife Doreen died last year and he is survived by their two sons and a daughter.



## DAME GUINEVERE TILNEY

Dame Guinevere Tilney, DBE, personal adviser to Margaret Thatcher, 1975-84, died on April 4 aged 80. She was born on September 8, 1916.

GUINEVERE TILNEY was a woman who filled several roles well. She was at different times an astute secretary, a dedicated political wife and a committed campaigner for women's rights. But she was best known, perhaps, for her role as personal adviser to Margaret Thatcher after she had become Conservative leader and, later, when she was Prime Minister.

Travelling abroad with Margaret Thatcher, Tilney had an ability to anticipate needs well in advance and to sort out problems when they occurred. This made her an invaluable companion. She did not always find it easy to be wardrobe mistress to a woman who travelled so much and needed clothes to suit all climates, let alone to a woman who had such firm ideas of her own. But Tilney's dedication, and did, exceed the call of duty. When it was necessary for the Prime Minister to slim before a physically demanding official visit to China, Tilney went on the same diet by way of encouragement.

Tilney, however, had played a not inconsiderable political role in her own right. In 1970 Lord Home, then Foreign Secretary in Edward Heath's administration, sent her to America as the British representative on the UN Commission on the Status of Women. She proved a popular choice. She could be relied on to make a well informed speech, and



had none of the offputting characteristics of the militant feminist. In New York she campaigned with vigour for the rights of women in the Third World.

Tall, slim and good looking, Tilney had a sense of style that stood out. She wore superbly cut suits in beautiful but plain fabrics by day, and in the evening long dresses which always stopped short of flamboyance but had a swinging glamour.

Guinevere Tilney was of Scottish descent. Her maiden name was Grant, and she was the younger daughter of the 12th baronet, Sir Hamilton Grant, and his wife, Margot Cochran. Sir Hamilton Grant

was Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, 1914-1919, and later, for several years head of the civil administration in the North West Province of India, now Pakistan. Guinevere's grandfather was Professor of Law at Edinburgh University for some 30 years.

Guinevere was skilfully educated at Westonbirt — "we concentrated mainly on potteries," she said — and went on, on the outbreak of the Second World War, to join the WRNS. She reached the rank of second officer. Her maternal grandfather was a regular officer in the Royal Navy. It was during the war that she met and married Captain

Lionel Hunter of the Canadian Dragoon Guards. He died in 1947, the year that her only child was born. Her father had already died when she was 18 and her mother moved in to a grace and favour residence in Hampton Court Palace.

A widow at 31, she took a course in typing, shorthand and book-keeping and a year later took the job which was to set the course for the rest of her life. She became a secretary to Lord Selborne, an elderly man of vast experience in politics, the city and business. At the time he was chairman of the National Provincial Bank and very involved in the Conservative Commonwealth Council. He had been Minister for Economic Warfare, 1942-45, and had sat as an MP for various constituencies for some 40 years.

It was through her work with him and her interest in the Commonwealth that she met her second husband John Tilney. He had become chairman of the West African Committee of the Conservative Commonwealth Council of which she was a member. A man with a good war record, he had joined the family stockbroking firm in Liverpool (Waverley) which he was to represent in Parliament for over 20 years.

Guinevere Tilney became very involved in her husband's political work in Liverpool. She sometimes travelled there and back as often as three times a week, leaving him free for ministerial duties in London. He was Post-Master General from 1962 to 1964 and later filled a number of

junior ministerial posts.

Tilney was one of the first of what today are called "ladies who lunch". But her lunches had serious purpose. In the early 1950s she was chairman of the Empire Ladies Lunch Club. It consisted mostly of wives of peers and MPs who were interested in the emerging Commonwealth and in women's rights. Her husband was the chairman of the Liverpool Luncheon Club, and when she discovered that women were only allowed on special occasions she set up the Merseyside Conservative Women's Luncheon Club in the city, becoming its first chairman. With its sharp political focus, it was a resounding success.

She used these and other luncheon clubs to raise money for Commonwealth causes and for furthering the status of women in the Third World. Sales of used clothing were a great success. Women lunch guests who asked Guinevere Tilney what they should they bring would be somewhat taken aback when she gaily replied: "your nearly-new, your nearly-new". It was probably she who gave the name to what has now become common place in London and smarter country villages — the "nearly-new sale".

Tilney was appointed DBE in 1984. She was deputy lieutenant for Lancaster, 1971-74, and of Merseyside, 1974-76. She was president of the National Council of Women of Great Britain, 1961-68.

Her second husband died in 1994. She nursed him devotedly throughout his long final illness. She is survived by her son.

## HUGH IRWIN

Hugh Irwin, CBE, a former assistant secretary at the Ministry of Transport, died on March 30 aged 86. He was born on March 21, 1911.

THE name of Hugh Irwin might strike a chord in the memory of those who have, during the last quarter of a century, piloted their craft through the locks and beside the quays of our inland waterways. As a Transport Ministry official in the late 1960s, he signed the official list of "dos" and "don'ts" — referred to at the time as "Irwin's by-laws" — displayed at strategic points along the banks.

He also helped to frame the legislation, prompted by his enthusiastic minister, Barbara Castle, which restored the present network of canals and connecting rivers — designating some for recreational purposes, others for commerce.

He had started in civil aviation, moving on to motorway planning and was present at the opening of the M1. The environmental value of motorway verges was among the areas in which he specialised.

Yet the man who signed "Irwin's by-laws" was not originally called Irwin at all. He was born Arthur Hugh Montgomery Miller in Ealing, west London. Hugh's father later changed his name to Irwin in order to inherit a large family estate on the shores of Lough Erne in Co Fermanagh.

Irwin was educated at Clifton College and Clare College, Cambridge, where he read French and German. After graduating in the ear-

ly 1930s, he entered the Home Affairs department of the then Northern Ireland Government in Stormont, working there until the start of the Second World War.

In 1942 he transferred to the Admiralty. He was then posted to the Ministry of Civil Aviation in 1947 and in 1952 won a Nutfield travelling fellowship to Australia — compiling a year-long study for Whitehall on air transport within the Australian subcontinent. He joined the Ministry

reach the dizzy heights of his profession — for which some thought his intellect equipped him and which his early promotion to assistant secretary might have led him to anticipate. But if he was privately disappointed, he did not show it.

He relaxed on the river at Twickenham, where he then lived, winning an assortment of sailing trophies in his own boat. He also kept up his languages, not only by travelling on the Continent, but by extensive reading in French and German.

He liked to practise his linguistic skills while in Whitehall, though these were not always appreciated. The Welsh-speaking junior minister (and later Secretary of State for Wales), John Morris, for whom Irwin had written a speech, once asked him if he could cut some of the French and German epithets with which Irwin had spiced it. "You see Mr Irwin," he pointed out gently "my own second language is English".

He married his wife Phyllis, the daughter of family friends in Dublin in 1934 in a wedding described by their local paper as a "marriage between north and south". They marked their golden wedding by sailing to America on the QE2 and went on to celebrate their diamond wedding three years ago.

Hugh Irwin had been suffering for the last ten years from Parkinson's disease, and donated his body to medical science in the hope of encouraging others to do the same. He died in a nursing home and is survived by his wife and by a son and a daughter.

Hugh Irwin had no enemies in Whitehall. A kind, gentle person, with a whimsical sense of humour, he was perhaps too unassuming to



## PERSONAL COLUMN

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE DORSET HOUSE, London Association AGM will be held on Saturday 17 May 1997 at 2.30pm at Dorset House, 27 Bedford Square, London WC1R 4EU. Tickets £10.00. Please book by 10 May 1997. Tel: 01453 88209 or Fax: 01453 88203. See do it.

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John Ross, CBE, civil servant, died on March 27 aged 88. He was born on March 31, 1908.

A WHITEHALL figure of the old school, John Ross combined a career in the Home Office with a devotion to the Presbyterian Church, an eager pursuit of classical studies and a lifelong affection for music. It was entirely appropriate that, towards the end of his career, one of his most prominent responsibilities should have been to supervise the arrangements every year for the annual Remembrance Sunday service held at the Cenotaph. The traditionalism, reverence and solemnity of the occasion accurately reflected his own nature.

John MacDonald Ross was born in Bothwell, Lanarkshire, but was educated at Highgate School, London, and Wadham College, Oxford,



where he read Mods and Greats. He then joined the Home Office.

During the Second World War he advised on the administration of the Defence Regulations (including the famous 18B, under which people like the Mosleys were locked up). Later he served for a number of years in the Police Division and ended up heading the

## JOHN ROSS

Nationality Division, retiring in the same year, 1968, that Enoch Powell delivered his notorious "rivers of blood" speech.

He was appointed CBE in 1967 and used his retirement to write an internal history of the Home Office's Nationality Division. He was a valued civil servant who frequently represented the United Kingdom at international conferences on nationality law.

But his official life revealed only half the man. From his home in Hampstead Garden Suburb he was a regular attendee at the Golders Green Presbyterian Church, serving it both as an elder and as session clerk. He was a frequent lay preacher and a formidable scholar and exponent of New Testament theology, an area where his knowledge of Ancient Greek stood him in good stead. He contributed to theological

periodicals and served for a time on the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches.

He accumulated a large library of ecclesiastical works, particularly on the history of the Church of Scotland, on which he drew to write his own *Four Centuries of Scottish Worship* (1972). He also contributed the introduction to Cicero's *The Nature of the Gods* in the Penguin Classics series.

In old age Ross's loss of hearing led to his gradual withdrawal from his many activities, including not only listening to classical music but playing it on his own clavichord and fortepiano. Yet his mind retained its energy and curiosity until the end.

He is survived by his wife Helen ("Nella"), and by two sons and two daughters, two daughters having predeceased him.

## ON THIS DAY

April 10, 1914

*A crumb of comfort for anyone who overstocked the larder before Easter.*

The buns, in fact, being made of the same material as the Host, partook of its divine and imperishable nature. They used to be hung up as charms against evil and kept from one Good Friday to another. Railway refreshment rooms have sometimes in the past harboured an idea that all buns were hot cross buns and similarly enduring. Ordinarily a bun is an unexciting thing, simple and unadorned. But of late the hot cross bun has shown a disposition to become ornate, to be made of richer mixtures, and to decorate itself with comfits and preserved fruits and even whipped

cream. But these things are plainly heresy. It is of its essence that the cross bun should be humble, unostentatious, if spiced, to be as fragrant as a violet.

The Greeks, we are told, had cross buns — hot or other — independently of Christianity. At all events, they had, as we know from sculptures, cakes marked with a cross, and two such cakes were found in Herculaneum.

The word is at least very old in English. At the end of the 15th century we hear of "whyte Bunnys for pore pepyll", which has a ring suggestive of present-day advertisement. Buns, then, both hot cross and other, have held their place in the affection of the multitude for a respectable number of years, and if anybody finds himself in the later hours of the day regretting the enthusiasm of the breakfast table, the hot cross bun, spiced to just the right degree, served really hot and with a sufficiency of butter, is worth some regrets. One is tempted to wonder why we should deny ourselves the luxury on all the other days in the year.



## NEWS

## Tories erode Labour poll lead

The election came alive for the first time last night as an opinion poll for *The Times* showed that the Conservatives have started to make big inroads into Labour's commanding lead.

The MORI poll, taken on Tuesday, puts the Tories on 34 per cent, up six points since last week, while Labour is down by a similar amount to 49 per cent. The Lib Dems are up a point at 12 per cent. Tony Blair's rating as the most capable Prime Minister has also dropped sharply. Pages 1, 9-14, 12, 20, 21

## Middle England's tax burden

Tax changes since 1992 are costing the average household £7 a week, an independent study by the Institute for Fiscal Studies concludes. Those earning between £15,000 and £20,000 a year and the "traditional" single-earner family have been among the biggest losers from the tax rises. Page 1

## Deer hunting ban

The National Trust is poised to ban deer hunting with hounds on its land after a two-year scientific study showed that the sport causes the animals unacceptable suffering. Pages 1, 6

## Football fans policed

German police mounted a massive security operation as thousands of Manchester United fans converged on Dortmund for their team's Champions League semi-final. Page 1

## US lawyers expand

American law firms in a new competition drive with the big London law firms have taken over an extra 137,000 sq ft — three acres — of office space in the City. Page 2

## Tourist rape victim

An Austrian tourist in London was raped repeatedly by eight teenage boys and then thrown naked into a canal, an Old Bailey jury was told. Page 3

## Rail suicides

Rail workers are being taught how to spot potential suicides in an attempt to reduce the number of people who take their own lives on the railway. Page 5

## Research at risk

Doctors fear that the arrest of a sculptor suspected of stealing human remains may deter patients from donating their bodies for research. Page 5

## Get a haircut to get ahead

Career women should get a haircut, eschew cardigans and above all, avoid looking like a secretary because they might be asked to make the coffee. The British Sociological Association also heard that big shoulder pads and high heels were a 1980s cliché. Today, tailored jackets with skirt or trousers, sensible shoes and subtle make-up are *de rigueur*. Page 8

## That Gazza feeling

Footballers stuck in the gloom of Division Three and the lesser leagues are suffering from "Shearerisation" and "Gascogneisation", according to a sociologist. Page 8

## Gingrich fights back

Newt Gingrich, the battered Republican leader, is elbowing his way back to power in a final high-risk effort to salvage his plummeting career on Capitol Hill. Page 16

## In from the cold

France's secret police and the counter-espionage agency made an unusual public defence of themselves against charges that they are incompetent, partisan and above the law. Page 15

## German EMU doubts

One of Germany's top economic advisers cast doubt on the Government's ability to meet criteria for EMU, ahead of Franco-German talks in Bonn. Page 15

## Mobutu urged to quit

America called on Zaire's ailing President Mobutu to step down and leave the country as fighting reached Kinshasa and rebels entered Lubumbashi. Page 16

## Hong Kong curbs

Pro-democracy leaders in Hong Kong were dismayed by the government-in-waiting's plans to rein in political parties and curb street protests. Pages 17, 20



The sapphire, diamond and pearl tiara from a suite of jewellery which originally belonged to Queen Marie-Amélie of France (1782-1866) and is to be sold by Sotheby's in Geneva for the Comte and Comtesse de Paris. The suite is estimated to fetch £626,000

## BUSINESS

**Rothschild:** Three founders of J Rothschild Assurance will share a £37 million stake in a Rothschild company after a deal in which the Prudential takes effective control of JRA. Page 25

**City risks:** Trading and broking houses are to have tough new risk-ratios imposed on them by a front-line watchdog. Page 25

**Poor advice:** The National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux has been forced to wind up the pension scheme it offers employees because it lacks funds. Page 25

**Markets:** The FT-SE 100 index rose 23.0 points to close at 4292.3. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 99.1 to 99.4 after a fall from \$1.6236 to \$1.6228 but a rise from DM2.7778 to DM2.7909. Page 28

## SPORT

**Boxing:** The postponement of the Evander Holyfield-Mike Tyson rematch means the meeting of Lennox Lewis and Henry Akintunde may have to be moved from England to America. Page 43

**Rugby union:** Nick Poppellwell, the Ireland and Newcastle prop, was fined and warned about his future conduct after throwing a punch in the Bedford match. Page 45

**Sailing:** Mike Golding and Group 4 reached Cape Town 20 minutes ahead of Chris Tibbs's *Concert* at the end of the 6,200-mile fourth leg from Sydney. Page 43

**Cricket:** Ireland meet Scotland in the ICC Trophy third-place match in Kuala Lumpur today to determine which of them will play in the 1999 World Cup. Page 42

## ARTS

**Porn broker:** Geoff Brown finds himself rooting for the bad guy in Milos Forman's *The People vs. Larry Flynt*, a bracing portrait of the pornographer. Page 33

**Half Nelson:** Mandela, Jo Menell's biopic of the South African president, was intended to be a war-and-all documentary. So where are the wars? Page 33

**Video releases:** Kurt Russell dons his eyepatch once more to play the maverick Snake Pliskens in *Escape from LA*, John Carpenter's noisy, violent sequel to *Escape from New York*. Page 34

**Star quality:** Siân Phillips is as impressive as ever in the title role of Pam Gems's *Marlene*, now transferred to the West End, but the play itself still falls flat. Page 35

## FEATURES

**Own goal:** Football has changed from tribal bonding on the terraces to just another million-pound "leisure" industry. Page 19

**Just call:** Dr Thomas Stuttaford on support for cancer patients; treatment for loose teeth that acts like garden rooting powder; side-effects of an epilepsy drug. Page 18

**Fresh start:** Bosnia-Herzegovina this weekend will take its most public step to emerge from years of war when the Pope pays his first official visit to the battered capital, Sarajevo. Page 39

**Delightful courses:** Derwent May on a book more interesting than its sounds — *How Proust Can Change Your Life*; Roger Scruton finds a theory of everything may be a theory of nothing; Peter Ackroyd on the wild life of Lord Edward Fitzgerald. Pages 36, 37

**It is far too early to call this a do-nothing Congress, but it has certainly been a done-nothing one so far** — *The Washington Post*

**LOTTERY NUMBERS**  
6, 22, 35, 49, 45, 42. Bonus: 16. The estimated jackpot was £3,600,000.

## TOMORROW

## IN THE TIMES

**POP**  
David Sinclair on the return of Basildon boys turned stadium rockers, Depeche Mode

**FEATURES**  
Valerie Grove talks to the septuagenarian star of *University Challenge*

## TV &amp; RADIO

**Preview:** Will election history repeat itself? 1964 and *All That* (Channel 4, 9pm). Review: Peter Barnard on men who fell apart. Pages 46, 47

## Endangered species

Over the remaining weeks *The Times* will seek to identify individual candidates who can make an unusual contribution to the next House of Commons. Page 21

## Outrage in Brazil

The greatest challenge will be the promulgation of affordable social legislation, establishing a framework where abuses will be far less frequent. Page 21

## Memento mori

Those who set out deliberately to offend against mankind's deepest taboos are tapping at the door of decadence. Page 21

## GEORGE CAREY

Trust has become a significant electoral word. Behind it stands a vocabulary of moral terms that enrich the notion of trust: honesty, goodness, reliability, faithfulness and honour. This is a vocabulary to be claimed not only by politicians but by all of us. Page 20

## WILLIAM REES-MOGG

My hope is that the influence of Hong Kong will tip the balance in favour of genuine political modernisation. It already has its network of relationships with the coming generation in China, and could be the model for the next stage of Chinese development. Page 20

## PETER RIDDELL

Today's MORI poll shifts suggest that some of the Tory propaganda on the economy may have started to have an impact. Page 12

## JOHN BRYANT

The week before a marathon is always tough. Perhaps the best thing you can do is put your feet up and read a good long book about sport. Page 42

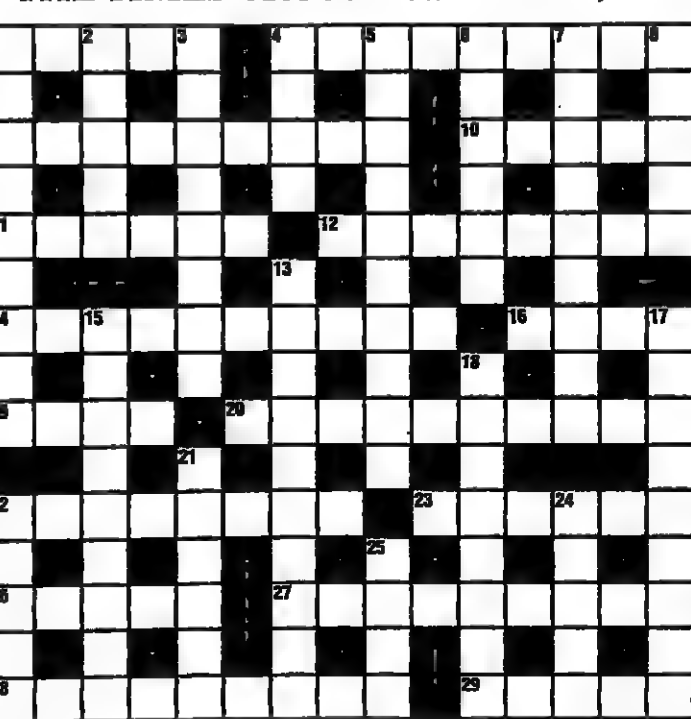
## OBITUARIES

Thomas Atkinson, GC: Dame Guinevere Tilney, personal adviser to Margaret Thatcher; Hugh Irwin, Ministry of Transport; John Ross, civil servant. Page 23

## THE PAPERS

The television debate: Martin Bell's candidature. Page 21

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,450

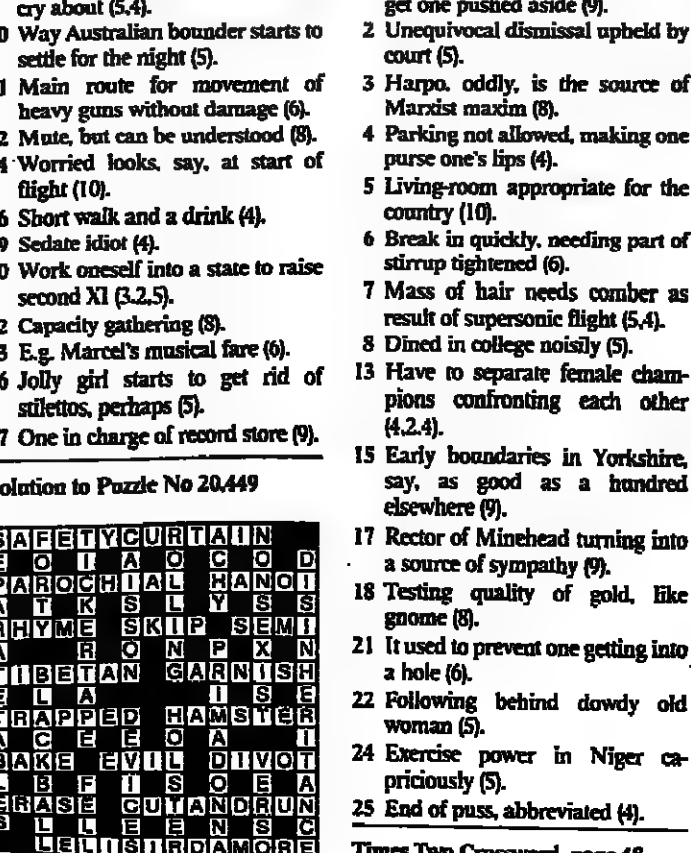


ACROSS  
1 Last of a series of twenty-four (5).  
4 Affectionate donkey, say, gets a bed of straw (9).  
9 How photographer achieves brilliance in news announcement to cry about (5,4).  
10 Way Australian boulder starts to settle for the night (5).  
11 Main route for movement of heavy goods without damage (6).  
12 Mute, but can be understood (8).  
14 Worried looks, say, at start of flight (10).  
16 Short walk and a drink (4).  
19 Sedate idiot (4).  
20 Work oneself into a state to raise second XI (3,2,5).  
22 Capacity gathering (8).  
23 E.g. Marcel's musical fare (6).  
26 Jolly girl starts to get rid of siffitos, perhaps (5).  
27 One in charge of record store (9).

DOWN  
28 Lead no trumps, for example (9).  
29 Being doomed, Nero fiddled after midnight (5).

1 Casual switching of parts could get one pushed aside (9).  
2 Unequivocal dismissal upheld by court (5).  
3 Harpo, oddly, is the source of Marlon's maxim (8).  
4 Parking not allowed, making one pursue one's lips (4).  
5 Living-room appropriate for the country (10).  
6 Break in quickly, needing part of stirrup tightened (6).  
7 Mass of hair needs comb as result of supersonic flight (5,4).  
8 Dined in college noisily (5).  
13 Have to separate female champions confronting each other (4,2,4).  
15 Early boundaries in Yorkshire, say, as good as a hundred elsewhere (9).  
17 Rector of Minehead turning into a source of sympathy (9).  
18 Testing quality of gold, like gnome (8).  
21 It used to prevent one getting into a hole (6).  
22 Following behind dowdy old woman (5).  
24 Exercise power in Niger capriciously (5).  
25 End of pass, abbreviated (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,449



Times Two Crossword, page 48

## LATEST ROAD AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

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## NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the new material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

## FORECAST

**General:** England and Wales will have a chilly start with a touch of ground frost in places and, here and there, some patchy mist. Later it will be bright and dry with long, hazy sunny periods. Winds will be light and it will be very warm.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will generally be dry and bright with sunny periods after any early morning mist or frost has lifted. The north will be cloudier with light rain or drizzle at times.

**London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth:** Early mistiness and ground frost clearing. Then dry

with long, hazy sunny periods. Winds light westerly. Very warm. Max 18C (66F).

**Aberdeen:** Early mist and ground frost then dry, sunny periods. Cloudier later, outbreaks of rain towards nightfall. Winds moderate westerly. Mild. Max 15C (59F).

**NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Rather cloudy but with bright intervals to east of high ground. A little rain or drizzle at times. Winds moderate or fresh westerly. Mild. Max 11C (52F).

**Argyll, N Ireland:** Bright, sunny periods after early mist and ground frost. Some coastal drizzle later. Winds light or moderate westerly. Warm. Max 14C (57F).

**Outlook for Friday and Saturday:** Most areas dry but with more cloud in some eastern areas.

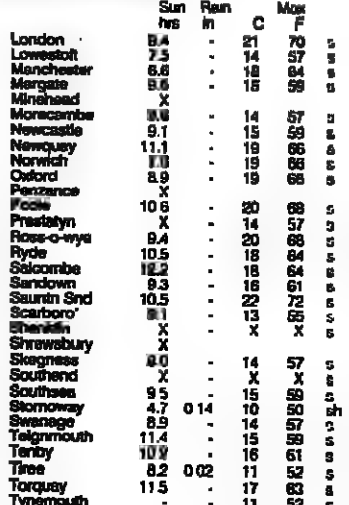
## AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

Area	Sun	Rain	C	Max	Min
London	8.8	1.7	83	8	1
Manchester	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Edinburgh	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Belfast	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Birmingham	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Bristol	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Cardiff	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Coventry	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Exeter	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Gloucester	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Leeds	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Liverpool	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Nottingham	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Sheffield	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Southampton	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Stoke-on-Trent	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Sunderland	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Torquay	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Wolverhampton	9.5	1.5	58	8	1
Wrexham	9.5	1.5	58	8	1

## NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: high E will be slow-moving with little change in central pressure.



## HIGH TIDES

Location	AM	PM	HT	HT
London Bridge	04.21	7.8	18.57	7.5
Aberdeen	03.59	4.3	18.17	4.4
Belfast	03.03	14.0	22.19	13.7
Cardiff	01.39	3.5	14.01	3.8
Coventry	09.49	12.9	22.05	12.6
Dover	01.21	5.8	21.01	5.5
Dublin (N Wall)	02.07	4.2	14.27	4.3
Falmouth	08.13	5.4	20.22	5.3
Glasgow	03.06	3.4	15.30	3.6
Harwich	02.22	4.3	14.47	4.1
Holyhead	03.50	5.8	13.12	5.8
Hull (Albert D)	03.01	5.9	21.18	5.1
Worcester	08.50	9.6	21.06	9.4
King's Lynn	09.11	6.8	21.26	7.1

All times GMT. Heights in metres.

## HOURS OF DARKNESS

Location	Sun sets	Moon sets	Sun sets	Moon sets
London	7.49 pm	6.14 am	7.49 pm	6.14 am
Bristol	7.59 pm	6.24 am	7.59 pm	6.24 am
Edinburgh	8.09 pm	6.18 am	8.09 pm	6.18 am
Manchester	8.01 pm	6.10 am	8.01 pm	6.10 am
Cardiff	8.08 pm	6.35 am	8.08 pm	6.35 am

First quarter April 14

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INSIDE  
SECTION  
2  
TODAY



## BUSINESS

Pensions worries  
for parties, says  
Graham Searjeant  
PAGE 29



## ARTS

Nice and sleazy  
does it in a  
fine new film  
PAGES 33-35



## SPORT

Norman seeks help  
to recapture the  
mastery of old  
PAGES 41-48

TELEVISION  
AND  
RADIO  
PAGES  
46, 47

THURSDAY APRIL 10 1997

# JRA foundry in line for £37m bonus

By MARIANNE CURPHEY, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

THE founders of J Rothchild Assurance, the life office set up by Lord Rothchild and Sir Mark Weinberg, stand to earn up to £12 million each after Prudential yesterday raised its stake in the company by an extra £40 million.

The move by Prudential, the UK's largest insurer, effectively gives it control over JRA just weeks after successfully bidding for Scottish Amicable. Sir Mark set up JRA in 1991 with backing from Lord Rothchild. He left Allied Dunbar, which he founded in 1971, when it was taken over by BAT Industries in 1989, and established JRA with co-founders Mike Wilson and Keith Carby, both from Allied Dunbar. JRA quickly grew and the move is in effect a reverse takeover of its parent.

Sir Mark, Mr Wilson and Mr Carby will each make up to £2.4 million immediately from the deal when they sell up to 20 per cent in the restructured company to Prudential. Under the terms of the deal Prudential has tabled a £30.6 million plan to increase its stake in St James's Place Capital (SJPC), the life assurance and fund firm that owns 40 per cent of JRA. At the same time SJPC announced a £185 million deal to increase its stake in JRA to 100 per cent.

After the restructuring, Sir Mark and Mr Wilson's total stake will be worth £12 million, and Mr Carby's £10 million. Lord Rothchild yesterday sold three million SJPC shares but will continue to hold a £15 million stake in the new company, representing 3

per cent of its share capital. He will stand down from the board because of other commitments but will become president of SJPC. The restructured company is likely to have a market capitalisation of around £530 million.

If the deal is approved the three founders of JRA will become executive directors of SJPC and will hold a 7 per cent share worth £37 million, or up to £12 million each. All three will sit on the SJPC board, with Sir Mark as chairman and Mr Wilson and Mr Carby taking executive roles. They have agreed to sell to Prudential 20 per cent of the SJPC shares they will receive in exchange for their holdings in JRA. They will immediately make up to £2.4 million each in cash but have promised to keep 80 per cent of their stake for the first year.

The restructuring proposals announced yesterday carry a clause that gives the Rothchild family power to remove the words "J Rothchild" from

JRA's name if they feel it is necessary to protect "the integrity of the J Rothchild name".

In 1994 Lautro, the former watchdog, publicly reprimanded JRA and fined it £100,000 with £40,000 costs for breaking its rules. The misconduct occurred in 1992. JRA's first year of operation. Lautro said JRA had failed to monitor its sales force properly and had not kept adequate records on advice to clients.

Under the terms of its proposal, Prudential will increase its holding to 29.9 per cent, just below the total at which takeover rules dictate that it must make a bid. The deal depends on the successful completion of Prudential's bid for Scottish Amicable, as the mutual's 19.6 per cent stake in JRA plays a major part in Prudential's plans. As part of yesterday's agreement, Prudential and Scottish Amicable have promised not to launch a takeover bid for SJPC for at least a year. The JRA brand name will stay.

Prudential will tender 130p each for 30.5 million shares, representing a 7.7 per cent interest, to top up the Scottish Amicable JRA holding and its own 3.7 per cent stake.

Sir Peter Davis, group chief executive of Prudential, has said that he believes in the longer term it is in the interest of SJPC to remain independently managed and have a separate stock market listing. Both deals are still subject to shareholder approval, but could be completed by June.

Tempus, page 28  
City Diary, page 29



Weinberg, "reverse takeover"



Bob Jones, forefront, with Richard Connell, left, and Chris Ward in a Warrior armoured personnel carrier yesterday

## Warrior targets Armed Forces

By JON ASHWORTH

UP TO ten million former servicemen and women are to be offered credit cards, insurance schemes and personal loans under a £104 million deal with Naafi, the long-time purveyor of tea and cakes to the Armed Forces.

Warrior Group, a joint venture between Naafi and HSBC Private Equity, has won the contract to provide financial services to past and present

members of the Armed Forces. Naafi lost a £400 million food supply contract to Booker in January and is furiously streamlining operations. Spar has effectively taken over the running of Naafi shops and Lanica Trust is backing a new mail order venture.

Bob Jones becomes chief executive of Warrior, which takes in Naafi's existing financial services division. He took the helm of a Warrior armoured personnel carrier

yesterday assisted by Richard Connell, a director of HSBC Private Equity, and Chris Ward of Deloitte & Touche Corporate Finance, which advised on the deal. Ian Lindsay, former banking director at Save & Prosper, becomes non-executive chairman.

About 80,000 of Britain's 300,000 serving members of the forces hold Naafi credit cards and other financial products. Mr Jones said: "Military customers are relatively

young, highly mobile and have very different financial needs to the man in the street." The aim is to widen the net to include millions of former Armed Forces members.

Geoffrey Dart, Naafi's chief executive, said that the money raised from the transaction would help Naafi with its restructuring, and allow it to modernise its pubs, clubs and leisure centres.

Naafi has a 32 per cent stake in Warrior.

## BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET  
FTSE 100 4292.3 (+23.0)  
Yield 3.77%  
FTSE All share 2067.58 (+10.37)  
Nikkei 17703.37 (-318.35)  
New York 8587.87 (-12.09)  
S&P Composite 765.36 (-0.76)

US RATE  
Federal Funds 5 1/4% (5 1/4%)  
Long Bond 9 3/4% (9 3/4%)  
Yield 7.10% (7.10%)

LONDON MONEY  
3-month Eurobank 6 1/4% (6 1/4%)  
Life long gilt 100% (100%)  
Future (Jun) 100% (100%)

STERLING  
New York 1.6220\* (1.6220)  
London 1.6223 (1.6234)  
DM 2.7915 (2.7775)  
FF 9.3832 (9.3472)  
SF 2.3924 (2.3889)  
Yen 255.28 (254.53)  
£ Index 89.4 (89.1)

COMMODITIES  
Copper 1.7248\* (1.7180)  
DM 1.6223\* (1.6234)  
FF 9.3832\* (9.3472)  
SF 2.3924\* (2.3889)  
Yen 255.28\* (254.53)  
£ Index 89.4 (89.1)

MONTHLY INDEX  
Brent 15-day (Jun) \$18.30 (\$18.10)

GOLD  
London close \$348.06 (\$348.46)  
\* denotes midday trading price

## Parsons sold

Siemens, the German electronics group, has acquired Parsons Power Generation from Rolls-Royce for £30 million. The deal will save 880 jobs in Newcastle upon Tyne. Page 26, Pennington 27

## Biggest deal

Procter & Gamble, the hygiene and household goods group, is making its largest purchase, having agreed to buy Tambrands for \$1.8 billion. Page 30

## Manufacturing recovery fragile

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

BRITAIN is on the verge of becoming a "two-speed" economy, analysts claimed yesterday, as new data showed that the recovery in the manufacturing sector remains fragile.

Manufacturing output rose by 0.2 per cent in February, according to figures compiled by the Office for National Statistics. The annual rate stood at 1.8 per cent, compared with an upward revised rate in January of 1.8 per cent.

However, the booming service sector rose by 4.75 per cent in the last quarter of 1996 and economists gave warning that the forecast interest rate rises are likely to depress manufacturing further.

Interest rates are forecast to rise by as much as half a percentage point next month, prompting a further rise in sterling. Export demand has picked up in recent months, but manufacturers are starting to suffer from the surge in sterling, with the full impact predicted for later this year.

The pound yesterday continued its rise against the mark, closing up more than a penny, at DM2.7909. Sterling has been buoyed by the dollar's recent strength and expectation

of interest rate rises. It closed down fractionally at \$1.6223, but rose 0.3 points to 99.4 on its trade-weighted index.

Adam Cole, UK economist with HSBC James Capel, believes that economic policy could be going badly astray, with either of the two main political parties likely to raise rates after the election rather than tighten up on spending and taxes, which would not harm manufacturing.

Jonathan Loynes, UK economist with HSBC, said that it is only the strength of domestic demand that has helped, so far, to counteract sterling's rise. Output of durable goods jumped by 2.7 per cent in the three months to February, compared with 1.9 per cent in the three months to January.

Overall industrial output fell by 0.6 per cent, with the annual rate of increase falling from 2.5 per cent to 1.5. Analysts blamed mild weather, which cut demand for energy. □ Housing starts fell 1 per cent in the three months to February, against the previous three, the Department of the Environment said.

Pennington, page 27

## EDS ahead on official IT contracts

By JASON NISSE

ELECTRONIC Data Systems, the American technology group, has won more than half of all the government information technology contracts out-sourced as part of the Private Finance Initiative, the Treasury has admitted. The previously unpublished figures emerge in a document produced by the commercial department of the US Embassy in London and obtained by Computer Weekly, the trade magazine.

In the report the embassy says: "They [the Treasury] comment that the UK subsidiary of one US firm has won 50 per cent of the \$600 million government market for IT services." The firm is EDS, whose contracts include work for the Inland Revenue and Department of Social Security.

When the Treasury was asked to give information to the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee about the extent of work by EDS for the Government last year, it said that it could not provide any more than "fragmentary information".

## SFA plans tighter risk-rating system

By ROBERT MILLER, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

CITY trading and broking houses are to have tough new risk ratings imposed on them by a frontline watchdog.

Next week the Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the regulator for brokers and futures dealers, will unveil plans to introduce the risk-rating system. This could fundamentally alter the way City firms deal with each other, particularly in the volatile futures and options markets.

Incidents such as the £330 million collapse of Barings and NatWest Markets' £90 million black hole that remained undetected for about two years, have prompted City watchdogs, including the Bank of England, to impose more precise risk-rating programmes.

Members of the SFA will be told their individual ratings this summer. They will be based on scores of one for the least risky through to five. The risk ratings will determine the level of attention and inspection visits made by the watchdog and the amount of spare capital they will have to post to cover their business exposure in the markets. In future SFA firms may decide whether to do business together

er on the basis of the risk ratings that they carry.

The SFA, headed by Nick Durlacher, says: "An important surveillance principle has always been that firms which are poorly run or that 'bother' us for some reason always receive the greatest surveillance oversight." In the forthcoming issue of its Briefing magazine the watchdog will set out the general criteria by which firms will be judged and subsequently awarded risk ratings.

The yardsticks by which SFA members will be judged include the financial stability of the company, the quality and strength of its management and internal control systems, and the type of business it does. These and other factors will be fed into an SFA mechanism to produce individual risk ratings.

In moving from a pilot project to the final risk-rating plan the SFA says: "Suitability of internal controls and the experience and competence of a firm's staff and management are now given a heavier weighting."

Tempus, page 28

## Advice bureaux pension scheme fails

By CAROLINE MERRELL

THE National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux (Nacab) has been forced to wind up the pension scheme that it offers employees because the scheme does not have enough funds.

The collapse of the scheme will be an embarrassment to Nacab, which employs staff specifically to advise the public about financial matters. Nacab is taking legal action against Bruce & Partners, an independent financial

adviser that administered the scheme, seeking compensation for losses that could run into thousands of pounds.

The pension scheme, set up more than ten years ago, offered employees guaranteed benefits linked to their final salary. It now appears that the scheme does not have enough funds to meet these guarantees.

David Evans, Nacab director of personnel, said: "Having realised the scheme was not viable, Nacab has mounted a rescue package. We greatly

regret the anxiety caused to members by the failure of the scheme. Arrangements are being made for the transfer of funds to approximately 130 members of the scheme, and everything possible has been done to wind up the scheme in an orderly fashion."

A High Court action against the independent financial adviser, is expected to be heard later this year. The pension was managed by Crown Financial Management, which was taken over by another company, Centu-

ry Life, late in 1992. Many of the company pension schemes offered by Crown are now being wound up. They were sold by financial advisers to small companies in the late 1980s. They had high charges and paid high rates of commission to advisers. According to the Pensions Ombudsman, about 5,000 former Crown schemes, with total membership of 80,000 people, are being wound up by Century.

Bruce & Partners, based in Cheltenham, was unavailable for comment.

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Commercial Union	36.00	Nationwide Life	83.50
Nationwide Life	37.81	Barclays Life	86.00
Friends Provident	41.58	Friends Provident	88.99
Black Horse Life	46.38	Black Horse Life	101.68
Scottish Amicable	48.00	Scottish Amicable	108.00
Scottish Life	58.51	Scottish Life	137.40
We can arrange this for	25.02	We can arrange this for	53.30

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## TransCo inquiry extended by MMC

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry into price curbs planned for TransCo, BG's gas pipeline network, has been extended until the end of next month. The outcome of the inquiry will not now be known until after the general election.

Until Tuesday night, the investigation, which will determine whether household gas gets a £28 cut in bills and BG loses about £650 million in sales next year, had been scheduled for completion next Monday. But the MMC asked for more time amid speculation that the new information involved revised estimates by TransCo of its operating costs. Significant new information is also thought to have come from Ofgas. Estimates by TransCo of its running costs would be of critical importance to the inquiry.

An MMC spokesman said delays to reports were only asked for "when it was absolutely imperative". The extension follows an 11th-hour meeting between the MMC and Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator.

The MMC report will go to the President of the Board of Trade for consideration before publication. Its findings will inevitably cause controversy. If the MMC supports TransCo's appeals against price curbs it will trigger complaints from the gas industry, not least the independent gas suppliers.

A favourable report for Ofgas would have BG warning of job cuts and shareholder losses. The MMC denied that the political climate had influenced its timetable.

A spokeswoman for BG denied the company had made available fresh information and said BG had responded to requests within the timescale. Ofgas said it had given extra information at the request of the MMC.

Pennington, page 27

## Channel 5 seals £86m Hollywood film deal



Mel Gibson's *Ransom* is one of the films included in Channel 5's deal with Warner Brothers which ITV has criticised

## Siemens buys ailing R-R power generation plant

BY OLIVER AUGUST

SIEMENS, the German electronics group, has acquired Parsons Power Generation from Rolls-Royce for £30 million. The long-awaited deal, which excludes the power station construction business, will save 880 jobs in Newcastle upon Tyne but a further 400 jobs could be lost when existing contracts end next year.

Siemens will integrate the turbine and rotor divisions into its worldwide operations. Its stake in Parsons amounts to turnover of £60 million, out of a total of £150 million, and two thirds of the North Tyneside site. Jürgen Gehrels, chief

executive of Siemens UK, said: "We didn't take over 880 people to make them redundant. But there is no guarantee. The only guarantee we will give is that productivity will improve, and Parsons has a long way to go."

Earlier this year Herr Gehrels suggested that Siemens would never invest in Newcastle if Britain rejects a single currency and the European Union. Yesterday he said: "No British Government would be so foolish to do that. Not just Newcastle, all our activities here in the UK would be in jeopardy. The

current debate about the single currency is creating a lot of uncertainty and makes investors very nervous."

Rolls-Royce has been trying to sell the loss-making Parsons for months. Herr Gehrels said Rolls-Royce's problems resulted from not being a global player in the power sector. Siemens will bring new work and transfer technologies to Newcastle from its plant in Mülheim, Germany. Siemens also bought the rights to the Parsons name. Herr Gehrels said: "I hope the name will not disappear. We will use it in some way, though

not to make power stations."

Under Siemens, Parsons will be run by Horst Münstermann, who will be assisted by Bob Hepburn. Herr Münstermann said that he wanted to improve productivity by introducing new management techniques.

Siemens will also assist the remaining 400 Rolls-Royce workers to complete existing power station contracts on a sub-contractor basis. The Parsons plant is only five miles from Siemens new £1.1 billion semiconductor plant.

Pennington, page 27

THE movie war between the main TV channels intensified yesterday when Channel 5 signed an estimated £86 million deal with Warner Brothers and ITV sealed an agreement with Universal, worth a reported £45 million (Alexandra Frean writes).

The Channel 5 deal covers all Warner feature films released this year and next, including the new *Batman* film. Mel Gibson's *Ransom*, and *Contact*, starring Jodie Foster. It also covers 190 titles from Warner's library.

Dawn Airey, director of programmes at Channel 5, said the money for the film deal was in addition to the station's £110 million annual programme budget. "This deal will give 5 many of the upcoming box office hits opening in the next two years, demonstrating the channel's commitment to bringing viewers Hollywood's best."

The size of the deal surprised many in the industry and followed a fierce bidding war between Channel 5 and ITV. It led yesterday to accusations from ITV insiders that Channel 5 had conducted a "phony bidding war", resulting in a "ridiculous escalation of prices that would benefit nobody but Hollywood".

ITV's deal with Universal, covers theatrical releases from 1996 and 1997, and includes the films *Twister*, *The Nanny*, *Professor*, *Dante's Peak* and the latest Jim Carrey movie *Liar, Liar*.

Marcus Plantin, director of the ITV Network Centre, said: "Competition is intense for top quality series. Securing the Universal deal tops up our war chest up to the year 2000." United News & Media, a shareholder in Channel 5 and owner of the ITV franchises for Meridian and Anglia, was in the unusual position of having a foot in both camps.

## Conrail battle settled

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

THE long-running US railway bid battle over Conrail has ended with a multibillion-dollar carve-up of the company between the two bidders that radically restructures the East Coast railway system.

Norfolk Southern, whose bid had been rejected by Conrail, will end up with most of the company by paying \$5.9 billion for a 58 per cent share. CSX, the other bidder whose

offer for Conrail had been agreed by the company, will pay \$4.3 billion for 42 per cent. The two bidders are forming a jointly owned entity to buy all the outstanding Conrail shares for \$115 each in cash, giving a total of \$10.3 billion.

The agreement divides up Conrail's main routes although some lines will be operated jointly.

## Windfall tax could hit customers

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR's plans for a windfall tax on the privatised utilities could mean higher prices for customers and throw a cloud over employment prospects in the companies. Criticism from the Institute of Fiscal Studies fuels fears over the implications of the tax already raised by the electricity regulator and political opponents.

The IFS, looking at how the tax might be applied, said the tax illustrated a "troubling" trend by politicians to craft taxes to suit political objectives.

Lucy Chennells, senior research economist at the IFS, said although the windfall tax — which is expected to raise upwards of £3 billion to fund youth employment — would

be imposed on companies, "people pay the tax in the end".

The IFS also said that the tax was inequitable because it would hit present shareholders of utilities who are not necessarily those investors which enjoyed benefits from the companies.

Ground rules, page 29

## SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 183rd Annual General Meeting of the members of the Society will be held within the Sidlaw Auditorium, Edinburgh International Conference Centre, The Exchange, Edinburgh EH3 8EE on Tuesday 6 May 1997 at 11.30am for the following purposes:

- To consider the Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ended 31 December 1996 and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors.
- To elect or re-elect Directors.
- To fix the remuneration of Directors.
- To re-appoint Price Waterhouse as Auditors.
- To authorise the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors for the current year.
- To transact any other ordinary business proper to an Annual General Meeting.

A member is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him. A proxy need not also be a member of the Society. To be effective, proxies (and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which it is signed, or a notarially certified copy of that power of authority) must reach the Society's principal office not less than two clear working days before the time for holding the Meeting. Members or proxies who intend to be present at the meeting should bring with them details of their policy numbers or in the case of proxies the policy numbers in respect of which they have been appointed proxy, and in all cases some means of identification. Registration will commence at 11.00am.

T B Houston SSC  
Group Legal Adviser and Secretary  
15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh EH16 5BU

3 April 1997

## New chiefs at troubled Costain

BY OLIVER AUGUST

COSTAIN, the troubled construction company, yesterday welcomed a new chairman and a new chief executive.

John Armit took over as chief executive after the resignation of Alan Lovell on Wednesday in the wake of the group's difficult financial position.

The present chairman, Azman Firdaus Shaffi, also resigned to head Mega Corp, which bought Costain's 30 per cent stake in the Spitfields development in the City.

Dr Azman, who is leaving the board of Intra, Costain's main shareholder, will be replaced by Dato' Jaafar bin Dato' Abdul Hamid, Intra's chairman.

A Costain spokesman denied that Dr Azman had resigned over the group's financial position or the onslaught from environmental protesters that board members have had to face. Dr Azman was shouted down and forced out of a meeting hall by Newbury bypass protesters last year.

Dr Azman left Intra after a restructuring of the group. Intra rescued Costain last year with a £78 million cash injection.

## OfTel moves nearer to a free phone market

BY ERIC REGULY

OFTEL, the telecommunications regulator, yesterday moved closer towards the creation of a free phone market with proposals to make number portability, which allows customers to keep their phone number when they change operators, mandatory across the industry.

The lack of portability was considered a major barrier to unfettered competition in the residential and business phone markets.

OfTel wants to make number portability a licence obligation for all operators. Currently, only British Telecom is required to provide portability. The cable com-

panies welcomed the announcement. They have been the prime beneficiaries of BT's portability obligation and expect to gain more customers as the system becomes universal. The cable companies had 2.3 million telephony customers at the start of the year and are gaining more than 70,000 new customers each month, mostly from BT.

Don Cruickshank, Director-General of Telecommunications, said: "Number portability eliminates the hassle of changing your phone number when changing operator. This enables consumers to take advantage of the increasing competition in the market."

## BUSINESS REBOUND

## Election 'slowing' home loan advances

RESEARCH published today by one of the leading mortgage lenders claims that home loan advances are being held up by the election campaign. The mortgage arm of Barclays says that "since the announcement of the date for the general election, people's optimism about house prices and home moving, which has been growing steadily over the past 12 months, has begun to slow down". The latest Barclays Mortgage Index shows that the value of gross mortgage advances in March was 15 per cent compared with the same period last year. Monthly home loan advances last month were 24 per cent up on February.

Jim Chadwick, a director of Barclays Mortgages, says: "The dip in consumer confidence... is likely to be reflected in mortgage advances later in the year. It is unfortunate that people are holding back at an ideal time to buy a home."

## Rolls-Royce sales ahead

SALES of Rolls-Royce cars motored ahead in the first quarter, according to Vickers, the luxury car manufacturer's owner. Worldwide sales rose 13 per cent to 446 cars, compared with 396 for January to March 1996. UK sales rose to 236 from 158 for the same period in 1996. However, sales on the Continent and in the Middle East fell sharply. In America, sales rose a modest 2 per cent to 92 cars. Overall, sales are on course to top last year's total of 1,744.

## Antonov suspended

SHARES in Antonov, the engineering design company, were suspended yesterday amid speculation that it has found the first major customer for its revolutionary automatic gearbox. The shares, which rose 14 per cent to 103½p on Tuesday, were suspended at 116½p. Antonov has yet to see a profit. Its AIM-listed shares fell from 151p to 48p last year after its failure to win any sale for its gearbox, claimed to be more efficient and cheaper to make than others. An announcement is due today.

## Ascot on dividend list

ASCOT HOLDINGS, the property group turned conglomerate, is paying its first dividend since November 1991. Shareholders will receive 3.5p per share on June 23. The company made a pre-tax profit of £5.9 million in the year to December 31. In the previous year, which is not directly comparable because of the acquisition of Suter and because the year end had been changed, the profit was £19.5 million. Fully diluted earnings per share were 10.5p (59.8p).

## Dowding's dull start

DOWDING & MILLS, the electrical and mechanical repair company, said that it has had a slow start to the year, but that it should still be able to lift profits by the year end. The company, which has increased its profits by 30 per cent for the past four years, said that it cannot guarantee maintaining this growth rate. Pre-tax profits rose 27 per cent to £7.12 million, in the last six months of 1996. Earnings per share were 2.84p (2.2p). An interim dividend of 1.13p is due on May 8.

## Shield switches to UBS

SHIELD DIAGNOSTICS, the high-flying company with a promising heart disease test, has appointed UBS as its brokers and financial advisers in place of Greig Middleton. Two weeks ago Gordon Hall, Shield's chief executive, said the company was "working quite happily with Greig Middleton". Yesterday he said Shield is moving to take advantage of UBS's larger operation. Shield's shares, down 7½p to 662½p yesterday, have more than quadrupled this year.

## TV group name change

SCOTTISH TELEVISION, the ITV company, is to change its name to Scottish Media Group to reflect its broader activities in the media sector. Scottish Television began to diversify late last year with the £120 million purchase of Caledonian Publishing, of Glasgow, owner of *The Herald* and *Evening Times*. It said the name change is subject to shareholder approval. Caledonian is making strong contributions to profit and the City expects newspaper interests to expand.

## TOURIST RATES

Bank Buy	Bank Sell	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
Australia \$	2.18	Malta	0.857
Austria Sch	30.54	Netherlands Gld	3.235
Belgium Fr	60.50	New Zealand \$	2.46
Canada \$	2.373	Norway Kr	1.78
Cyprus Cyp	0.863	Portugal Esc	201.50
Denmark Kr	11.16	S Africa Rd	2.78
Finland Mk	8.84	Spain Ptas	248.00
France Fr	9.81	Sweden Kr	16.88
Germany DM	2.34	Switzerland Fr	2.52
Greece Dr	434	Turkey Lira	2187.97
Hong Kong \$	13.55	USA \$	1.704
Iceland	120		
Ireland P	1.10		
Israel Sh	5.178		
Italy Lira	2002		
Japan Yen	219.80		

Only for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank.

Different rates apply to traveller's cheques.

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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STOCK MARKET

CLARE STEWART

# Shares lose momentum in run for 4,300 level

THE stock market attempted a second run at the 4,300 level yesterday, cheered by a good overnight rise on Wall Street. But despite weaker than expected industrial production figures, the market lost sight of the target and slid back to its best level of 4,301.5. At the close the FT-SE 100 stood at 4,292.3, up 23 points on modest volumes once again of 699 million.

BG was one of the most heavily traded stocks, with nearly 21 million shares changing hands. Shares dipped 3p to 176p, after the MMC extended the deadline for its inquiry into TransCo, BG's pipeline business, until after the general election. The new deadline is May 31.

The commission had been expected to report on April 14, and BG shares had been boosted recently on hopes of a favourable outcome.

Insurance groups attracted interest, with Royal Sun Alliance and General Accident buoyed by a positive note from Warburg, the brokers, setting new target prices for both stocks.

The 900p mark has been pencilled in for General Accident and 500p for Royal Sun Alliance. Shares in the latter touched a trading high of 450p before easing back to close at 443, down 1p. General Accident added 3p to 807p.

Talk of buying interest from the US gave Sedgwick, the insurance broker, a further lift, adding 1p to 126p. Other brokers were in demand. Oriol was pushed to 117p before ending at 114p, up 2p, while Steel Brail Jones moved up 1p to 77p.

Pharmaceuticals were also sought, helped by results from the sector coming out of the US. Zeneca added 36p to 180.4p, with SmithKline Beecham up 22p to 915p and Glaxo Wellcome up 7p to 10.88p.

A buy recommendation helped to fire up the electricity generators, with PowerGen up 5p to 611p and National Power rising 13p to 504p.

Water companies attracted interest, defying pre-election wobbles. Severn Trent added 13p to 719p, while Thames Water rose 6p to 671p.

Oils were again in demand, with BP up 10p to 693p and Shell higher at 10.50p. Biff pushed Dana Petroleum 3p higher to 26p, while British



Richard Barber has a positive view at Caverdale, up 1p

Borneo surged back with a 42p jump to 113.40p. Premier Oil attracted interest, and there could be more to come as dealers. The shares ended 1p down at 38p.

Hanson continued to gain ground on further rumours that it is considering the sale of its electrical business. The shares added 8p to 299p, although some analysts were

per cent increase in the UK driving up the total number of cars sold to 446. Vickers shares dipped 1p to 225p.

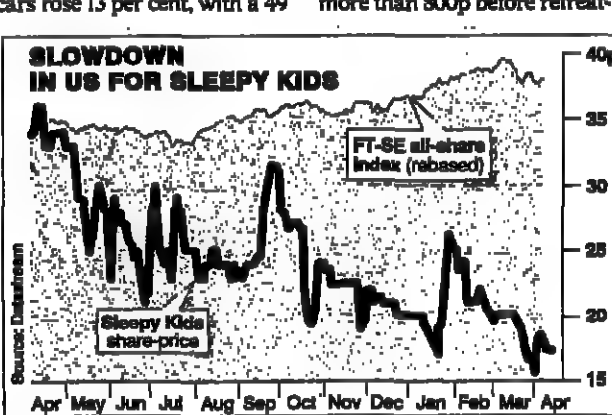
Rolls-Royce, the engineering group, added 2p to 244p after its sale of Parsons Power Generation Systems to Siemens for £30 million. British Steel back dipped a further 2p to 150p.

BSkyB recovered ground

RMC, the supplier of construction materials, which is due to report year-end figures today, saw late buying lift its shares 26p, to £10.01, a rise of nearly 3 per cent. Profits are expected to be hit by problems in a number of markets, with brokers forecasting a 20 per cent drop from last year's £329 million.

more inclined to attribute the rise to recent improvements seen in the aggregates market, with groups such as Tarmac reporting strong results. Tarmac shares added 1p to 116p.

Eager British buyers snapping up Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars failed to stir Vickers, the parent company. First-quarter sales of the luxury cars rose 13 per cent, with a 49



Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr

ing to close 91p off at 785p. News of the £372 million acquisition of US-quoted Stant Corp by Tomkins lifted shares 71p to 282p, making it one of the best FT-SE 100 performers.

There was a busy trade in St James's Place Capital shares after it revealed its £185 million deal to take full control of J Rothschild Assurance, while in a separate deal the Prudential is set to increase its stake in St James's Place. The shares rose 6p to 131p, while Prudential added 6p to 564p.

Allied added 5p to 171p after the group revised plans for a share consolidation. Among other retailers, Tesco dipped on profit-taking, moving down 2p to 362p, while Dixons lost 10p to 52p.

Among drinks groups, Bass was up 2p to 817p and Whitbread was ahead 61p to 780p, but Allied Domecq was less spirited, with recent poor sales of Teacher's Whisky knocking the shares 61p lower to 437p.

Results from Sleepy Kids, the character merchandising group which includes Budge the Helicopter in its portfolio, did little to rouse the ailing share price, as profits more than halved. The shares fell a penny to 17p.

Caverdale, the car distribution group, added 1p to 134p after Richard Barber, managing director, reported a 28 per cent rise in pre-tax profits and encouraging outlook for 1997.

Danka Business Systems was encouraged 22p higher to 512p on talk of a 600p target price, while demand for Kwik-Fit pushed its price 81p higher to 238p.

AIM-quoted Antonov was suspended at 116p after a 13p rise. GILT-EDGED: More volatile conditions were reported by dealers, but early gains evaporated as the market slid back in line with equities. The index-linked share was weaker after a disappointing auction of inflation-linked bonds in the US.

The June series of the long gilt ended up 1/2 at £109.33 on flat volumes of 50,000. Treasury 5 per cent 2000 rose 1/2 at £102.14 while Treasury 3 per cent 2015 was unchanged at £102.

NEW YORK: Weakness in Merck, the drugs company, and IBM kept the Dow Jones industrial average lower. By midday it was 12,099 points weaker at 6,597.07.

## MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):  
Dow Jones 6597.07 (+1,209)  
S&P Composite 765.36 (+0.78)

Tokyo:  
Nikkei Average 17708.37 (+318.33)  
Hang Seng 12426.06 (+28.11)

Amsterdam:  
EEX Index 738.69 (+11.09)  
CAC-40 2389.2 (+20.3)

Sydney:  
AO 3399.40 (+29.70)  
DAX 101.88 (+0.31)

Frankfurt:  
DAX 3399.40 (+29.70)  
DAX 101.88 (+0.31)

Singapore:  
Straits 2103.2 (+1.51)  
General 1187.57 (+44.63)

Paris:  
CAC-40 2389.2 (+20.3)  
S&P Composite 765.36 (+0.78)

Zurich:  
SIX 966.40 (+23.70)  
DAX 101.88 (+0.31)

London:  
FT 30 2848.0 (+5.6)  
FTSE 100 4292.3 (+23.0)  
FTSE 250 1539.6 (+3.0)

FTSE 100 (100) 2169.1 (+21.6)  
FTSE All-Share 2087.56 (+10.37)  
FTSE Non-Financial 2169.1 (+21.6)

FTSE Fixed Interest 116.61 (+0.01)  
FTSE Govt Secs 93.83 (+0.21)  
Barrington 42102

SIAG Volume 690,776  
US\$ 1.6238 (+0.0008)  
German Mark 2.7909 (+0.0013)

Exchange Index 99.4 (+0.14)  
Bank of England official rate (ppm)  
ECU 1.6363 (+0.0001)

ESDR 1.5500 Feb 12 794 Jan 1987 1000  
RFX 1.5433 Feb 12 794 Jan 1987 1000

RECENT ISSUES

Aurora Inv Trust 100 ...  
Avalon Oil 90 ...  
Avis Europe 131 ...  
Blickstein 41 ...  
Cambridge Antibody 564 ...  
Charlton Athletic 60 ...  
Close Bros Prot VCT 92 ...  
Diagonal 316 ...  
Donatantonio 72 ...  
Harvey Nash 204 ...  
Heal's 212 ...  
Helfphie Group 115 ...  
Murray VCT 2 (100) 102 ...  
Newcastle Ltd 135 ...  
Oxford Tech Venture 144 ...  
Pathfinder Properties 38 ...  
Prestbury Leisure 24 ...  
Q Group 116 ...  
Sibir Energy 15 ...  
Torch Hedges 107 ...  
United Overseas Grp 61 ...  
Walthamstow 144 ...  
World Telecom 183 ...  
Worldwide 177 ...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Blocum n/p (9) 22 ...  
Cleveland n/p (75) 91 ...  
Edge Property (135) 15 ...  
JGX Oil & Gas n/p (34) 7 ...  
Parco n/p (300) 9 ...  
Saville Gordon n/p (55) 4 ...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISER: ...  
Selling: ...  
CPL Aromas 107p (+10p)  
Dorling Kind 301p (+24p)  
Sentry Farm 165p (+12p)  
Parity 484p (+21p)  
Black & Laid 409p (+18p)  
AEA Tech 479p (+12p)  
FALLS: ...  
Clydeport Ops 127p (-10p)  
Harris 479p (-7p)  
Jervis 207p (-17p)  
Bodyside 785p (-17p)  
Net Express 538p (-11p)  
Dixons Grp 527p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 31

## TEMPUS

# Fibs, damn fibs and Fibspam

THE sleuths at the Securities and Futures Authority have found a brilliant but simple antidote to the cult of the City bonus.

It is called the Fibspam rating: the 1,350 securities houses patrolled by the SFA will be told how high they score in exposure to risks relating to their finances, type of business, clients, credit risk and, most embarrassing of all, management competence. The SFA is quick to insist that the Fibspam ratings will remain confidential but the likely scenario is predictable. Just as news of blockbuster bonuses at Acme Securities flashes through dealing rooms, rumours will also circulate that the SFA has awarded it a high Fibspam rating over concerns that the top management at Acme has an inadequate understanding of its exposure to derivatives.

Rival dealers will pounce on the informa-

tion and the share price of Acme Bank will tumble. If the word Barings springs to mind it is because it should. The SFA points out that a high Fibspam indicates an exposure to risk, not evidence that the firm is at risk. However, the former can easily bring about the latter if the firm fails to take action to protect clients and shareholders. Inevitably, the price-sensitive ratings will leak out, causing confusion, and some firms will choose to boast of their low ratings leading to questions about their shy brethren.

If a securities firm is engaged in business deemed by the SFA to be high risk, its shareholders and creditors should be made aware. There is a place for well-managed, high-risk securities operations but they require more capital and management resources. The Fibspam ratings should be published.

## Tomkins

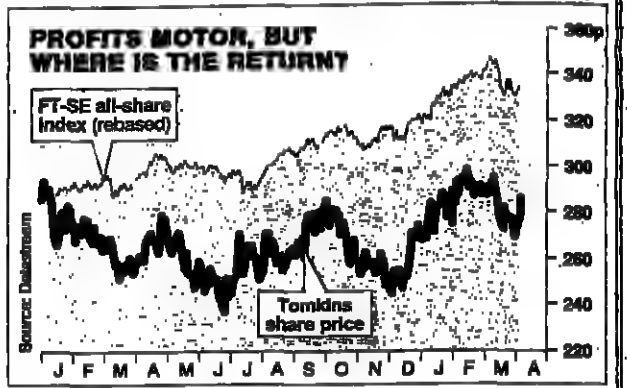
TOMKINS suffered a lot of stick for using its lowly rated shares to acquire the Gates Corporation. With more than £500 million languishing in the bank, such a funding route looked expensive. It was therefore no surprise to find an ebullient Greg Hutchings, Tomkins's chief executive, pointing out that the cash pile was instrumental in securing rapid agreement over the takeover of Stant Corporation.

Tomkins is getting almost \$700 million in sales for \$600 million, and US earnings forecasts for the Nasdaq-quoted stock suggest the exit multiple is about 15 times. That should provide Tomkins with an earnings uplift but the more interesting prospect is the expansion of Stant's market. Currently, Stant sell exclusively in the

US but the international distribution network of Gates should enable it to sell its products overseas.

If the deal is right, a share price gain ought to follow but with Tomkins nothing is so simple. In the past, any gain was short lived because of determined selling from a major fund, but while the overhang has now disap-

peared, the share price still lags the market on a forward multiple of 12.5 times earnings. The problem is the perception that Tomkins is hanging on to its low-growth business; there is no earthly reason why it should make lawnmowers, bicycles and handbags. A really opportunistic company should be selling as often as it buys.



J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A

## Prudential/JRA

PRUDENTIAL'S deal with SJPC gives the giant insurer a punt on a go-ahead company that has been adding new business to its books faster than most of the rest of the industry this year. Although small in terms of the Pru's life fund, the deal provides a window into a business that is worlds away from Pru's safe, dull, home service sector.

The insurance giant is unlikely to see huge profits from JRA in the short term; the latter is a young company lacking the cashflow to pay out dividends. The attraction is the prospect of soaring growth over the next decade. JRA grew like topkay last year, with total new business up 39 per cent, compared with an industry average of 24.

Meanwhile, the Pru can take its share of the profits from SJPC's venture capital and asset management arm, which each contribute £3 million annually. For its

part, SJPC has simplified JRA's ownership and structure without the need for flotation, and incentivised JRA's sales force with a new share option scheme. However, the publicity surrounding pensions mis-selling means the public has been wary of life insurers.

Having been fined and publicly reprimanded by Lauto in 1994, JRA's conduct will need to be exemplary in the future if it wants to capitalise on the upturn in public confidence.

## Smiths Industries

SMITHS INDUSTRIES turned in a typically good set of interim results yesterday but, unfortunately for Sir Roger Hurn, the chairman, the City is already looking for the next deal, and this time, it expects a big one. This is seen as an important test of the mettle of Keith Butler-Wheelhouse, who took over from Sir Roger as chief execu-

tive last November. Now capitalised at £2.4 billion, Smiths can afford to spend some £500 million on its next purchase. At that level, businesses are better known and more widely prized. So it becomes much harder for Smiths to continue its practice of making friendly takeovers of private companies at attractive prices.

Size brings with it more risk, and these concerns could dog the shares. Yet trading remains strong in all three divisions, with a faster than expected recovery in the aircraft avionics business. Quite apart from sales arising from the rash of orders for new civil aircraft, Smiths is set to benefit from a series of military programmes, including the F-16 fighter in the US and the Hawk jet in the UK.

Smiths will make about £190 million or 42p of earnings this year. At 785p, the shares are not cheap but still look a sound buy.

EDITED BY CARL MORTIMBER

## COMMODITIES

ICE-100R (London & Japan) CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel FOB)

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## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Long Gilt: ...

German Govt Bond (Bund): ...

Italian Govt Bond (BTP): ...

Japanese Govt Bond (JGB): ...

Three Mth Sterling: ...

Three Mth Eurodollar: ...

Three Mth ECU: ...

FTSE 100: ...

Base Rates: ...

Money Rates (%): ...

Local Authority: ...

Building Society: ...

European Money Deposits (%): ...

Gold/Precious Metals (Baird & Co): ...

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES: ...

Amsterdam: ...

Brussels: ...

Copenhagen: ...

Dublin: ...

Frankfurt: ...

London: ...

Madrid: ...

Milan: ...

New York: ...

Osaka: ...

## DOLLAR RATES

Australia: ...

Belgium (Com): ...

Denmark: ...

France: ...

Germany: ...

Italy: ...

Japan: ...

Malaysia: ...

Norway: ...

Sweden: ...

Switzerland: ...

Other Sterling: ...

Argentina peso: ...

Australia dollar: ...

Bahrian dirham: ...

Brazil real: ...

Canada dollar: ...

China yuan: ...

Czech koruna: ...

Dracma: ...

East German mark: ...

French franc: ...

German mark: ...

Indian rupee: ...

Israeli sheqel: ...

## WALL STREET

NYSE: ...

AMEX: ...

OTC: ...

FTSE 100: ...

FTSE 250: ...

FTSE All-Share: ...

FTSE 100 (100): ...

FTSE All-Share (100): ...

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FTSE All-Share (100): ...

FTSE 100 (100): ...

FTSE All-Share (100): ...

FTSE 250 (100): ...

## WALL STREET

NYSE: ...

AMEX: ...

OTC: ...



## THE TIMES



## CITY DIARY

## Sleepless partner

PUTTING the finishing touches to the deal that gave Prudential a stake of almost 30 per cent in St James' Place Capital, left Sir Mark Weinberg with only 55 minutes sleep on Tuesday. What's more, Prudential's bid for Scottish Amicable delayed the announcement of St James' Place Capital's nine-month results by almost a week.

## Counting votes

NEIL SHERLOCK, director of internal communications at KPMG, has packed away his beans while he campaigns for support as the Liberal Democrat candidate for South West Surrey. "I'm going to topple Virginia Bottomley," boasts the 33-year-old optimist who secured 20,000 votes at the last election. A former president of the Oxford Union, Sherlock beat stiff competition from rival Boris Johnson, Tory candidate for South Croydon, to win the student post in 1985. "I see that as a good omen," he says.

## Racing hunger

IN HER bid to boost Brands Hatch, Nicola Foulston is heading for the kitchens at the motor racing circuit. The 29-year-old chief executive has been driven to distraction by fans who, armed with flasks and sandwiches, are not paying a penny to the circuit's caterers. Solution: the Hatchburger — a lip-smacking themed alternative to be launched next month. And now the medieval village of Brands Hatch has finally disappeared, the resourceful Miss Foulston has the trademark rights to the brand name, which will be emblazoned on the burgers' wrappers.



Foulston: burger solution

## Heath defects

GARY HEATH, head of the IFA Association, has switched his political allegiance to Tony Blair. Having served as a Conservative councillor in Buckinghamshire from 1989 to 1993, Heath is backing Labour's proposal to create a super-SIB by merging the PIA, Imro, and the SFA. "I will back anyone who will give constructive change that will help decent people running decent businesses. If that meant voting for the Monster Raving Loony Party, I would vote for them," he says.

## Limited welcome

GOOD news for accountants who complain that politicians never take them seriously enough. The Institute of Chartered Accountants was rather startled to find that its Great Hall at Moorgate Place, has been booked by the Labour Party for tomorrow's launch of its Business Manifesto. Tony Blair can expect to find insistent pin-striped gents tugging gently at his elbow, asking for a quiet word about reforming the rules on the limitation of partners' liability.

AFTER valiant efforts to clean up its racy image and let globetrotting fraudsters know that they are no longer welcome to launder gains in the Caymans, the Islands' Government has set its own stock exchange on hold. No listings have been secured.

MORAG PRESTON

Most of the poorest adults in society are over 65. Most of them have to rely on the basic state pension. They were in low-paid jobs with no pension, or moved around with bouts of unemployment in between, or worked for themselves and could not afford to save money outside the business. Many were just too busy looking after a family to be in the official workforce. All these once shrinking groups are now growing again. Meanwhile, the basic state pension has been shrinking relative to national income for 16 years.

No wonder means-tested benefits are mushrooming, even though an estimated 600,000 pensioners do not claim their full entitlement. No wonder the main parties are worried about the state earnings-related pensions scheme, which was unforgivably introduced on an unfunded basis. Serps is now starting to cost burgeoning billions with a dwindling rate of new contributions to match them. No wonder that both Tories and Labour want to help, persuade or drag more unprovided people into some form of privately-funded secondary pension.

To that extent, a consensus exists around ideas that the National Association of Pension Funds helped to develop. Policies recently diverged. Peter Lilley, Social Security Secretary, came up with Basic Pension Plus too late for Labour to respond. Common ground remains. No one seems quite to have cracked the issue. And either party seems liable to damage existing private pension and savings schemes by mistake.

The critical area is secondary pensions for

## Parties hunt for the pensions golden goose, then kill it

the lower paid. As many learnt to their cost, individually tailored personal pensions are just too expensive. Replacing Serps with something better requires some simple, low-cost alternative to personal pensions with some choice of provider.

Within an eclectic menu of savings schemes, Labour opts for the "stakeholder" pension. This might be organised on a standard basis by big insurance companies, affinity groups or friendly societies (probably trade unions) or via industry-wide schemes such as those being developed for Unity Trust Bank. So far, however, Labour assumes that the minimum contribution need be no more than the full release of National Insurance contributions for contracting out of Serps, less than 5 per cent of income. Anything else must be voluntary.

Mr Lilley spent a lot of time on similar ideas and could not make the economics work. That is why he dreamt up the more drastic notion of converting the basic pension into a privately funded scheme as well. Adding the two together gives enough cash to keep percentage costs low and, eventually, yield a higher base pension.

Basic Pension Plus involves so drastic a



change that it would not help anyone drawing a pension for nearly 50 years. To fund the transition, today's schoolchildren would lose tax relief on all pension contributions, removing much of the incentive to channel any further savings into inflexible pensions funds. Privatising the basic pension would also require the State to help those who could not afford contributions. Means-tested benefits will be boosted again. Inevitably, more working-age folk will become enmeshed in the benefit trap. The Tory scheme could, on present

policies, eventually provide a bigger pension for have-nots than Labour's stakeholder plan. Either still looks inadequate on its own. Saving less than 5 per cent of income will not keep people at a decent standard in retirement. A minimum is 10 per cent.

People need some help on the basic state pension, at least for the next 60 years. Now that the "demographic timebomb" has been exposed as a hoax, it is clear that the cost of the basic state pension will fall as a percentage of national income more or less continuously over the next 50 years if it is indexed only to prices. If the basic pension budget was kept at its reduced level of about 4 per cent of national income, the pension would rise steadily in real terms, although not as fast as earnings. Labour has avoided any such commitment, presumably because, like the Tories, it wants to raid the basic pension to meet the unfunded Serps burden.

The second essential is to avoid damaging successful existing occupational pensions and savings schemes such as personal equity plans. The Tories rightly crow that the evasive rest of the EU together cannot match Britain's £650 billion invested pension funds. Only a fool imagines that

this success had nothing to do with a kindly pension tax regime. Government will interfere with it at our peril.

Labour is expected to attack the dividend privileges of pension funds, charities and Peps as a conveniently "hidden" tax worth a gross £8 billion a year. The tax may be hidden, but the results are clear. The retirement income people earn by saving in personal pensions, money-purchase occupational schemes or Labour's stakeholder scheme would be cut. Employees in final salary schemes might be all right, if employers stump up the extra funding needed. If they do, under the tougher solvency provisions of the Pensions Act 1995 the net gain from pension funds might be zero. More likely, more employers will join the drift to cheap defined contribution schemes that will deliver much lower pensions.

Limiting or abolishing contribution relief, as under Basic Pension Plus, looks equally ill-advised. These reliefs are not just incentives to save. They boost returns. If reliefs are cut, ordinary people's pensions will eventually be cut.

If more people are to earn decent secondary pensions, reliefs must not be watered down, either for fiscal logic or short-term Treasury greed. To minimise compulsion, politicians must trust people to save as they will and as they can in more flexible schemes such as Peps and, one hopes, Labour's Individual Savings Account. If politicians try hard to find solutions so elusive, they had better trust market forces more.

## Christine Buckley looks at the practicalities of setting the utilities levy

## Ground rules for Labour's windfall tax

Privately, some anxious Tories representing marginal constituencies have been criticising utilities for being wimpy. These Conservatives are incensed that companies are apparently prepared to give in so easily to a windfall tax. One gave a verbal battering to a generator, incredulous that it was not shouting from the rooftops its opposition to a tax that would wipe millions from profits.

Most utilities have indeed been curiously quiet, although the Conservatives were welcome as a political flip a threatened wholesale rebellion from the utilities. But it will not happen before the election and is unlikely afterwards in the face of a Labour government.

While a legal challenge is not out of the question, the majority of companies are certain to think seriously about the implications of such action. This, as the Institute of Fiscal Studies pointed out yesterday, is ostensibly a politically palatable tax with less sound economic foundations. Any challenge, perhaps by utilities with US owners, would risk the wrath of a new government that could impose far harsher regulation than presently being considered. There is more appetite in the boardrooms for instant pain through the windfall tax than longer-term suffering through tougher regulation. As Labour has declared the tax to be a one-off the companies should then be able to shape investment and operations without too much uncertainty.

Labour can score easy political points by turning the screw on utilities which have earned public contempt because of high levels of executive pay, profits and dividends. The contempt for some, notably water companies, extends to their reputation for wasted resources and poor service. Tougher regulatory regimes seem certain, but if companies squeal against the windfall levy, the curbs could be harsher.

How the windfall tax will shape up for the companies is almost anyone's guess except Gordon Brown's at present. There are growing expectations that the tax may be pitched at the lower end of City estimates.

It could be no more than about £3 billion as opposed to the £5 billion and even £10 billion touted around over the past year or so. But there are few pointers as to which companies will be included. The more Labour has said about the possible remit, the less clear the picture is. What started out as the Utilities Monopoly Levy, in the Shadow Treasury's working notes, and was widely perceived as a tax on the electricity, gas and water companies has undoubtedly expanded.

As the IFS found in yesterday's analysis of the likely impact of the windfall tax and the way in which it might be applied, the unknown factors are immense. Tipping the tax application one way or another is of crucial importance to the companies, their investors, the people they employ and possibly to consumers through price pressures.

The rationale for the tax is that assets were sold too cheaply by the Government and utilities have enjoyed excessive profits through monopoly positions. Favourable regulation has helped, as have cost efficiencies which have proved much greater than first imagined.

But the experience of companies and industries varies. Herein lies the challenge of drafting a tax to apply across a broad range of utilities, however they may be categorised, and any other privatised companies to be affected.

Mr Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has refused to be drawn on the definition of a utility. Generally a public utility is taken to mean a service provided for public use such as power, water, transport and telecommunications. Indications are that the net may be cast wide. It could include BT, British Airways, British Airports Authority and a number of other companies who would argue strongly that they operate in internationally competitive environments and therefore should be immune from the tax.

The wider the remit, the less the burden on individual companies. But the wider the remit, the more difficult the case would seem to be against individual companies. The widest remit could encompass all privatised businesses sold by the Government for less than they have proved worth — ie, all privatised businesses. But those operating in a vigorously competitive arena, such as telecoms, will argue that their circumstances are not comparable with electricity and water companies, which enjoy regional monopolies.

One possible definition is all businesses that are regulated. This would include many companies that have given shareholders bumper benefits at the expense of consumers. Mr Brown has pointed to the tax covering companies privatised since 1979 that are licensed and subject to regulation. A levy on regulated companies would bring in BT, but would exclude the large electricity generators,

which operate in a competitive environment, however widely criticised that area is, and are not regulated. But the exclusion of National Power and PowerGen from a windfall tax, when each has returned £1 billion to shareholders, would not seem equitable.

The ability of companies to pay the tax and estimates of the amount they should pay are as sensitive a calculation as the roll call of who should pay. For the companies it is of vital importance because different bases for establishing a levy make for different amounts of tax to be paid.

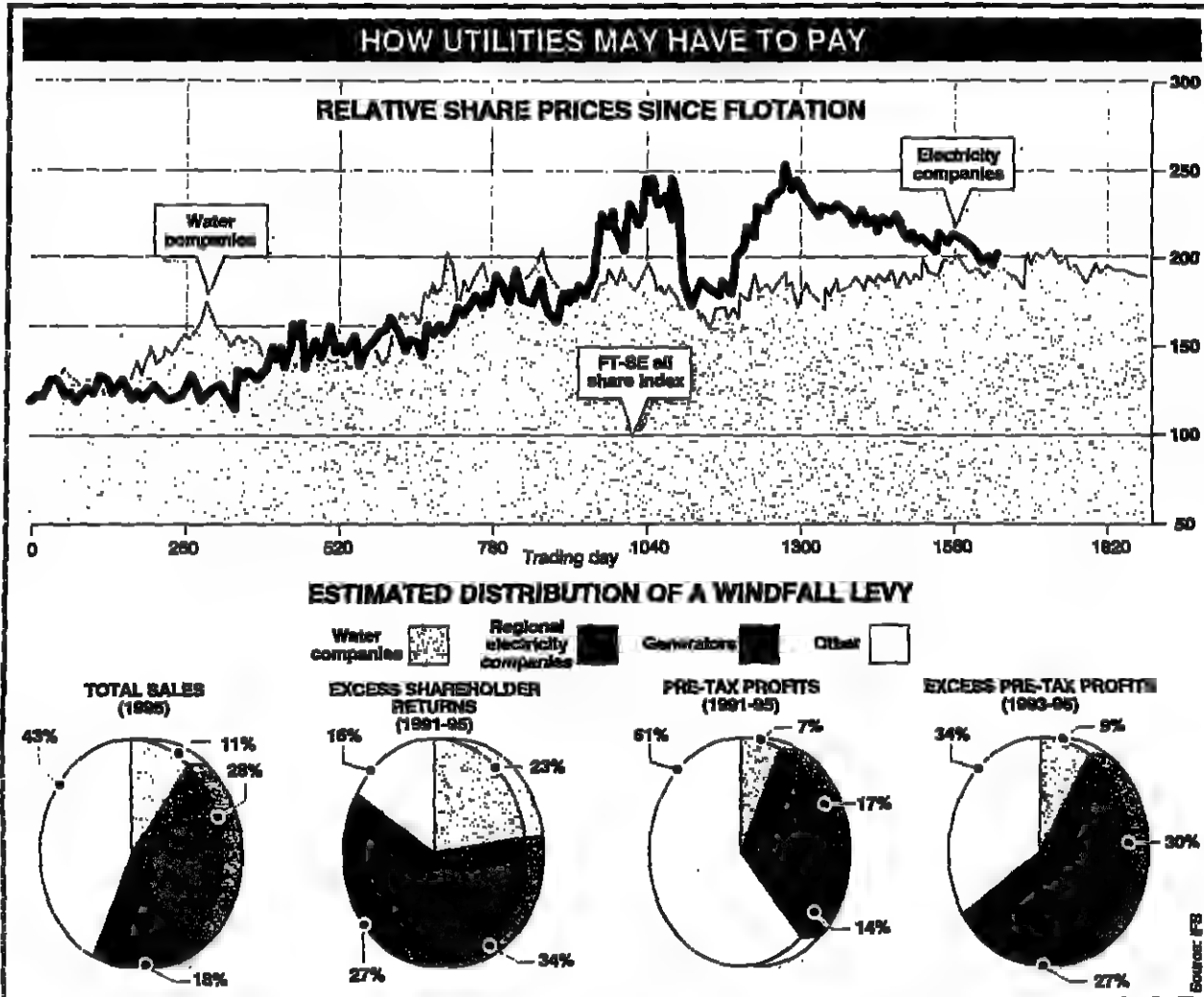
The basis of the tax could be set in four main ways — on the sales of the companies; on what are judged to be excess share-

holder returns compared with other measures of share performance; on pre-tax profit; or on what is judged to be excess pre-tax profit viewed against comparable companies.

A tax based almost exclusively on sales lacks sophistication and would take no account of the excess profits that Labour is keen to penalise. A share price evaluation may grasp more of the outperformance of utilities but while their share prices have leapt ahead of comparable companies, a calculation of a tax on share price would be unique and of questionable merit. It would also be a victim of its own effect because the share prices of utilities now factor in the impact of a windfall tax and are therefore lower than they might otherwise have been. The levy is

more likely to be linked to profits. Again this is open to considerable interpretation. It would be anomalous to fix the levy in accordance with corporation tax paid because the water companies have paid much less corporation tax than other utilities or privatised businesses. Rather, Labour must seek to determine some measure of excess profits above what might be reasonable. This is where benchmarking will compare other large companies and regulated industries overseas.

Labour will have compared the performance of the British utilities with those in Europe and the United States. Apart from its own calculations the party will draw on a range of studies pitching the performance of the privatised utilities



in terms of profits and share price against other large companies. Recent research for the Trade and Industry Select Committee investigation into energy regulation by the Centre for Regulated Industries provided benchmark comparisons showing outperformance by the utility companies. Other studies, such as one presented to the Royal Economic Society last month on the performance of the regional electricity companies have described profits as "abnormally high".

The decision on which companies to hit will come from the Treasury with little input likely from other departments. So far, amid internal conflict over the tax, Mr Brown has resisted attempts by some divisions of the party to help to shape implementation of the levy. A plan to involve the utilities in regional development through the tax sculpted by Richard Caborn and backed by John Prescott was squashed by Mr Brown. It is possible that such a devolved programme for the levy will resurface with supporters arguing that the utilities, as large employers, would be useful if they were involved in programmes of regional regeneration. They would fund local jobs with their own contributions to the windfall tax with possible incentives to create employment offered through investment partnerships with government.

Labour's trade and industry department is thought to have had little involvement in consultations over the tax. Kim Howells, a frontbench spokesman on trade and industry, last year caused controversy when he indicated that the tax could damage the competitiveness of companies that pay it.

Such arguments, which are bound to be reinforced by the industry, could influence a Labour chancellor to spread the tax more thinly among more companies. One thing that is certain about the tax is that it will be imposed quickly — as soon as the first Budget allows — so that the job creation exercise that it is intended to fund may begin. By June, if the government changes, all should be clear.

## Fading fame of a management 'guru'

The ideas that companies should be close to their customers and should stick to the business they are good at are so central to the basic managerial tool kit today that they appear trite. It is hard to remember it is only in the last 15 years that they have become so widely accepted.

Staying close to customers and sticking to the knitting were two of eight managerial principles laid down by Tom Peters and Robert Waterman in their 1982 book, *In Search of Excellence*. The book has gone on to sell nearly 6 million copies.

Its success turned Peters from McKinsey consultant into the world's first management "guru". His weekly column ran for ten years and was syndicated to 110 newspapers, even reaching India and Korea. He can charge \$95,000 a day for his seminars, and gives \$5 a year. Yet, as Stuart Crainer's biography shows, Peters' research methods are questionable and his "thinking" has become increasingly incoherent. Casting himself as a rebel, Peters has turned to gimmicks to make an impact. On the cover of one recent book (subtitled *Crazy Times call for Crazy Organizations*), Peters is pictured wearing orange shorts. One of his columns fatuously claimed that "a man with a tie is mentally constipated", while a recent presentation slide reads: Excellence! Pretzel Crumb-less-ness + WOW!



Tom Peters, whose reputation is called into question in a new biography

Crainer observes that fun has taken over, and it is difficult to find anyone with a good word to say about Peters' most recent books. Moreover, even the merit of *Search* is open to serious question. Crainer writes: "In *Search of Excellence* was narrow in perspective; often strikingly banal in its insights; contradictory in its selection process; nationalistic and written by two unknown management consultants." Why, then, was it such a success? The answer, as Peters has acknowledged, is down to luck and impeccable timing. The book appeared when the US economy was in the depths of recession. Yet instead of trumpeting the triumphs of Japanese management, as was then the vogue, Peters

and Waterman celebrated the success of "excellent" American corporations. Nemesis came swiftly. Peters' excellent companies — including Hewlett-Packard, Disney and Digital Equipment — were soon in trouble, and one of them, IBM, went on to suffer some of the worst losses in corporate history. Peters admits: "In *Search of Excellence* eight principles have survived intact — just the companies haven't."

Despite the serious flaws of 1987's *Thriving on Chaos* ("true to its title", says Crainer) and 1992's *Liberation Management* ("gushingly anecdotal [and] largely unreadable"), Peters retained his sense of timing and his antennae for the spirit of the age. He

can take credit for helping to focus managers' minds on the need for continuous change and improvement. Peters is best regarded as a populariser, catalyst and motivator.

Gratifyingly for those who enjoy their prejudices, Peters is better at telling people how to run their businesses than at managing his own. His attempts to build a consultancy business on the back of his success have failed. Crainer says Peters' company falls short of the customer service standards that he demands of others — even failing to return telephone calls.

Crainer has written a readable account of Peters' career, divided into bite-size sections and leavened with dry wit. After quoting Peters' bizarre analogy between his writing career and anal-retentiveness, Crainer says of the "complete loosening" that produced *Liberation Management*: "Peters' anal metaphor is open to misinterpretation."

Crainer steers clear of Peters' personal life, his four wives and his time in therapy. Perhaps for this reason, a feeling for Peters' charisma and forceful personality remains elusive. Still, the book is well worth reading before going to see Peters on his next visit to London — and much better value, too. □ *Corporate Man to Corporate Skunk: The Tom Peters Phenomenon*, by Stuart Crainer; Capstone, £18.99, is published on April 18.

PAUL DURMAN

## ENGELS-HOLLANDE BELEGINGS TRUST N.V. (English and Dutch Investment Trust)

Established in Amsterdam

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders will be held on Thursday 24 April 1997 at 10.00 hours at the Le Meridien Apollo Hotel, Apollolaan 2, Amsterdam. Shareholders wishing to attend the General Meeting of the Company must deposit their shares not less than seven days before the Meeting with Staal Bankiers N.V., Lange Houtstraat 8, 2501 CH Den Haag or with Royal Exchange Assurance, 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3TG. A deposit certificate will be issued to such shareholders which, upon surrender, will entitle them to vote at the Meeting.

Holders of shares registered with the Company in its Shareholders' Register must inform the Board of Managing Directors in writing at least four days prior to the Meeting that they intend to attend the Meeting in person or by proxy.

Holders of Participation Certificates issued by Royal Exchange Assurance who wish to attend and vote at the Meeting must contact the Trustee Department of Royal Exchange Assurance, 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3TG at least ten days before the Meeting. Royal Exchange Assurance is prepared to issue a power of attorney for the same number of shares held in trust as the Certificateholders shall have deposited with Royal Exchange Assurance.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1996 and of the Resolutions to be put before the Meeting will be available at the offices of the company. At the meeting a proposal of the meeting of holders of priority shares will be put forward, to approve an amendment of the company's articles of association (i.e. an increase of the company's authorized share capital). A copy of the proposal including the verbatim text of the proposed amendment is deposited until the end of the meeting at the offices of the company for inspection by the shareholders and holders of depositary receipts and is available free of charge to shareholders and holders of depositary receipts.

Board of Management  
Engels-Hollande Belegings Trust N.V.  
Wassenaar, 10 April 1997

Office address:  
Rust en Vreugdlaan 2  
2243 AS Wassenaar



## Australia lifts bank takeover controls

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE  
IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA is to remove restrictions that prevent foreign companies from taking over domestic banks, it was announced yesterday.

Delivering the Government's response to the seven-month inquiry into the sector, known as the Wallis report, Peter Costello, the Treasurer, said: "The Government has decided to remove the former government's blanket prohibition on a foreign takeover of any of the major banks."

The "six pillars" policy had prevented mergers between Australia's big four banks — ANZ, Westpac, National Australia Bank and Commonwealth Bank — and the two largest pension and life insurance groups, Australian Mutual Provident Society and National Mutual.

Banking analysts said yesterday that the move was good news for Lloyds TSB, HSBC Holdings, and ABN Amro and JNG, the Dutch banks, which are all believed to be keen to expand their presence in Australia.

However, Mr Costello said that the Government would retain the power of veto over any foreign bank takeover, saying that any large-scale transfer of ownership into foreign hands would be contrary to the national interest.

The Government also scuppered hopes of a consolidation of the Australian banking sector by prohibiting mergers between the four biggest banks until there was more competition within the industry.

Shares of ANZ and Westpac, which had been seen as bid targets from National Australia Bank, fell, while shares in National Australia Bank and the Commonwealth Bank both rose.

Analysts believe that the Government will now approve Westpac's recently proposed \$51.4 billion (\$674 million) takeover of the Bank of Melbourne, a regional bank.



Lawrence Ward, left, who has been appointed chief executive of Martin International, with Samuel Ling yesterday

## Procter & Gamble to pay \$1.8bn for world-leading Tambrands

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

PROCTER & GAMBLE, the hygiene and household goods group, is making its largest purchase having agreed to buy Tambrands, maker of Tampax tampons, for \$1.8 billion.

P&G is paying \$50 a share for the company. Its only product is Tampax tampons, which began marketing in the 1930s. It is still the world leader with 40 per cent of the tampon market.

P&G said it planned to expand the business with broader retail marketing, particularly in areas of the world where it currently sells in small amounts but which have the largest growth potential.

About 90 per cent of Tambrands's sales are in Europe and North America, although Tampax is marketed in more than 150 countries. P&G already has market-leading sanitary pads and other feminine protection products.

Controversy already surrounds the deal with allegations of insider trading circulating in some quarters. The New York Stock Exchange has contacted Tambrands about a surge in trading in its shares over the past few days.

P&G tried to keep the talks secret, but rumours of an imminent takeover of Tambrands swept the market last week. Trading in the company's options has been unusually heavy on the Chicago Board Options Exchange in the past few days. Trading was also intense on the New York Stock Exchange where Tambrands shares rose \$3 to more than \$46 since last week. The surge

means that the \$50 purchase price represents only a small premium to the current value of the shares. The \$1.8 billion purchase price is 14 times operating income. Analysts regard this as a respectable rating. Tambrands shares have fallen 30 per cent since 1993 amid the bull market for stocks in general.

Recently the company has been restructured, closing four of its nine factories, cutting 17 per cent of its workforce and taking a \$45 million charge to cover the changes.

The purchase will establish P&G as the market leader in feminine protection products. It also shuts out rivals such as Kimberly Clark which was believed to be interested in buying Tambrands. P&G withdrew from the tampon market in 1980 when its Rely brand was associated with toxic shock syndrome. It is the first significant purchase by P&G since 1995.

Electric and Morgan Stanley, the US investment bank, to float later this year. The original business plan envisaged flotation by the end of 1995, but commercial operations began later than expected.

Ionica said that it plans to cover 80 per cent of homes in the UK, excluding Scotland, by 2002. Service began in eastern England, where more than 14,000 customers have signed up, last June.

Telecom Plus, a specialist provider of telecoms services, said it is to join Ofex, the unregulated securities market, through the sale of 2 million shares at 50p each.

## Ionica plans 600 service centre jobs

BY ERIC REGULY

IONICA, the wireless telephony company, is to create 600 jobs at a new service centre in Birmingham. The site will help to support the planned roll-out of commercial operations across the country.

The centre is to open in the summer and will provide marketing and billing services.

Ionica has another service site in Cambridge, employing 700. Announcement of the Birmingham centre comes a month after Ionica raised £215 million in debt and private equity to finance expansion.

The City expects Ionica, whose shareholders include Yorkshire Electricity, Northern

Electric and Morgan Stanley, the US investment bank, to float later this year. The original business plan envisaged flotation by the end of 1995, but commercial operations began later than expected.

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## SA prompts more questions

Self-assessment gives rise to certain taxing concerns, says David Brodie

On Monday the Inland Revenue started posting eight million new-style self-assessment (SA) tax returns. Tax specialists eagerly await answers to four compelling questions. Is the Revenue capable of administering SA? Will more people turn to professional advisers? Will we witness a mushrooming of "tax shops"? And how will the Revenue exercise its extensive new audit powers?

The first thing to strike taxpayers will be the look of their tax returns. Instead of a drab form in a brown envelope, it comes in a blue plastic polywrap. It has bold colour-coding for signposting, and a separate guide and booklet explaining the tax calculation.

It is misleading to talk about the tax return. There are 23 versions for different taxpayers' situations. Each has the same initial eight pages requesting common details such as bank and building society interest, payments to pension schemes and other tax reliefs. There may then be extra pages tailored to particular circumstances, to report income from employment, self-employment, capital gains and so on.

Instead of large white spaces for detailed narrative entries, the SA return prefers little boxes which can take only a

number, a tick or a few words. It is a computer input document, to be used by the Revenue to work out your tax. It is no longer sufficient to report your salary as "per PAYE" — a figure must be entered.

You have until January 31 next year to submit the form, although anyone wanting the taxman to compute their outstanding tax — or refund — should file by September 30. This still leaves time to accumulate the necessary information. All employers should provide employees with details of salaries and benefits in kind, on forms P60 and P11D, by May 31 and July 6 respectively. And banks and building societies must provide certificates of interest credited on deposits free of charge upon request.

The Revenue acknowledges that SA has been a massive organisational exercise, and many professionals question its outward confidence that all the pieces are falling safely into place. For example, there have been many reports of conflicting advice being offered by tax districts and head office.

The Revenue also acknowledges that it will not be able to cope if most taxpayers choose to file next January, and so it is encouraging early submission of SA returns. Hence the recent publicity that the taxman will do the calculation for you if you



David Brodie highlights fears about random audits

meet the September 30 deadline. In fact the Revenue will complete the calculation for later filers too, although there may be interest penalties.

There is some contention about the development of electronic lodgement, enabling professional firms to submit clients' returns "down the line". Although the Revenue claims to have met all necessary deadlines, some computer com-

panies blame Revenue delays for their failure to produce relevant software in time.

The proportion of taxpayers seeking professional advice rose to 72 per cent from 20 per cent when SA was introduced in Australia in 1980. Until now, about half of those completing UK tax returns have sought professional help. The Revenue says SA need not drive anyone else into the arms of an adviser.

Whatever government is in power after May 1, it will be strapped for cash. SA introduces a power of random audit, and experts fear that taxmen will become tougher in conducting audits, spurred on by Treasury demands for extra tax. The recent jailing of Michael Alcock, the former inspector, and reports of a few over-zealous investigators who have broken the traditional ground rules, have done little to instil confidence that tax investigations will continue to be carried out in a "gentlemanly" way.

It emphasises the user-friendliness of the return, the help available from tax offices and a new out-of-hours helpline. These may be insufficient once taxpayers realise the tough new penalties for incorrect returns, and that tax offices will not help with tax planning.

Hence the growth in "tax shops" now advertising cut-price no-frills help with SA returns. But let the buyer beware. Anyone wanting the taxman to compute their outstanding tax — or refund — should file by September 30. This still leaves time to accumulate the necessary information. All employers should provide employees with details of salaries and benefits in kind, on forms P60 and P11D, by May 31 and July 6 respectively. And banks and building societies must provide certificates of interest credited on deposits free of charge upon request.

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David Brodie is Director of TaxAid, a charity that provides free advice on tax matters to individuals in financial need.

## Advisers may still have the last laugh

THE Inland Revenue unveiled the final version of its tax return for the brave new world of self-assessment last week and some eight million of them are now clogging up postal services across the country. The form has brought mixed responses. People in the tax world are caught between two difficult points.

There is nothing a tax adviser likes better than to rubbish what the tax authorities are up to. It is, after all, good for business if the Revenue is perceived to be doing things in an over-complex and wrong-headed way. So the natural response is to spread tales of woe.

But the Revenue has worked extraordinarily hard at self-assessment and while its boast that we now possess "the best tax return worldwide" doesn't say much for the competition, the form is probably as good as something as complex as a tax return can be. So advisers, once they have had their rant, are tending to say things that constitute praise for the Revenue, even if the compliments are expressed quietly. It is this confusing position of having

to adopt two contradictory positions that will be the central problem for tax advisers in the coming year.

Swathes of press releases greeted the new forms. Ernst & Young, for example, quoted Phil Davis, its astute national head of tax investigations: "The Inland Revenue deserve our congratulations for the design of the new tax return." But in another press release on the same day he is quoted as saying: "My advice to those who receive a tax return is BEWARE." The problem is that the introduction of self-assessment is going rather well — much better than anyone dared to hope. But the business of tax advice depends on things going wrong and the adviser sorting them out. Doug Smith is the Revenue's self-assessment programme director. Asked how many more taxpayers would need to hire a tax adviser, he said: "None. No one who hasn't already got an adviser should need an adviser."

The Revenue is putting enormous emphasis on two things: its support systems and its ability to calculate the tax for a taxpayer. It has set up 40 work stations through which to run its helpline. And, if taxpayers can get the forms back to the Revenue by the end of September, it will do the tax calculations for them based on the information submitted.

All this depends on a huge change in taxpayer behaviour. There is no reason why peo-

ple shouldn't put aside a series of evenings, wrap the towels around their heads and get the form filled out. But however you simplify it, any tax form is still going to worry and baffle the person filling it in. For the Revenue and for seasoned tax people the forms are logical and clear to follow. But there are, to the Revenue, a surprising number of people who struggle with the logic of instructions such as "if W65 is less than £500, you do not need to make a payment on account. Leave 18.6 blank and tick 18.8 on your tax return. If W65 is equal to or more than £500, carry on".

The number of people who are going to fall at some hurdle or other will not become much smaller because the form is redesigned. John Whitting, head of tax at Price Waterhouse, sat in on the Revenue's press launch as an observer and, though happy with the signs that the new system is a more efficient one, remained unhappy about the optimism expressed. He cited the failure rate on this year's effort in getting forms in on time: "If this year's figures are repeated, then a million people will pay penalties next year."

He emphasised the huge change in behaviour that will be required to make the system work.

It is all too easy for the Revenue to believe its own booklets and assume that everyone will jump to it, gather up their personal documents, follow the forms from box to box and get the resulting effort into the tax office on time. Life ought to work like that. But we all know that it does not. And it is here that the tax advisers are more likely to be proved right than the tax gatherers.

Penalties will make headlines. The idea that the costs of dealing with a random audit are incurred by the taxpayer and that they are not deductible will rankle. The realisation that after the 7,500 random inquiries into taxpayers' affairs there will be equally numerous trawling expeditions into specific taxpayers' affairs, what one tax adviser refers to as "the curiosity cases", will not go down well. And we will all await the tabloid coverage of unfortunate and blameless elderly pensioners being asked by the Revenue to sort out their bank statements and look lively about it.

All this was predictable. But the Revenue, keen on logic rather than human behaviour and natural apprehension, has taken a long time to understand. Tax advisers, in a year's time, may have the last laugh.



ROBERT  
BRUCE

## Smokescreen tactics

NOW that self-assessment has been properly launched upon us, a new controversy has arisen among the ranks of tax advisers. They are worried about the likelihood of local tax offices using their newfound powers to launch a tax investigation without having to give any reasons to have a quick go at "curiosity cases", where they have often wondered about the tax affairs of

someone but have never had enough of a reason to investigate.

One of the ways to limit such a trawl is to file the papers as late as possible. The possibility of an enormous quantity of tax returns being filed on January 30 next year in the hope, as one adviser said, "that they will get past in the smokescreen", may prove too tempting.

## Silent partners

THERE were large numbers of people pretending to be journalists at last week's press launch of the new self-assessment tax forms. In fact most of the large accountancy firms had sent along senior people to observe.

Price Waterhouse even had the firm's head of tax there, and Ernst & Young was repre-

sented alongside a solid contingent of experts from KPMG. But the pretence of being journalists had a downside. They were barred by the Inland Revenue from asking any questions.

## Good reception

ACCOUNTANCY Television, the short-lived training system funded by the accountancy

bodies, was a disaster. So it is good to report that its competitor at the time, TEN, the television education network, is going from strength to strength.

This week its Accountants' Channel celebrates its 400th programme — while its relaunched Finance Channel is poised to gain accreditation from CPE, continuing professional education, from CIMA, the management accounting body.

ROBERT BRUCE







**ETIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE**

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9 OSCARS  
BEST FILM  
BY MICHAEL CURTIZ

A STIRRING EP  
AND A GREAT LOVE STOR  
YOU WILL NOT FORGET

...with a master's a  
...by the great days of David L

THE ENGLISH PATIENT





## ■ FILM 1

**With The People vs. Larry Flynt**  
Milos Forman returns to something like his old irreverent self



## ■ FILM 2

**Nihilism runs riot in Swansea, or at least it does in the loutish Swansea of Twin Town**

THE TIMES  
ARTS

## ■ FILM 3

**After the lucrative return of Star Wars, the (slightly) enhanced Empire Strikes Back hits the screens again**



## ■ FILM 4

**Half Nelson? Is the new documentary film of Nelson Mandela's life too reverential?**

**CINEMA: Geoff Brown finds himself rooting for the bad guy in Milos Forman's ebullient *The People vs. Larry Flynt***

# For a good time, call on the scumbag

After being shot by a sniper outside a Georgia courthouse, an event that puts him in a wheelchair, millionaire pornographer Larry Flynt says: "I've got to move somewhere where pervers are welcome." We cut immediately to his next port of call, Hollywood.

The joke is amusing, yet it also alerts us to the unusual status of *The People vs. Larry Flynt* in mainstream American cinema. Milos Forman's rollercoaster ride through the life of the brazen publisher of *Hustler* magazine takes place mostly between 1972 and 1984, years when conservative forces increasingly stifled the iconoclastic spirit bequeathed by the 1960s.

Today's Hollywood, by and large, is even more conformist than the Hollywood Flynt knew. It loves formulae: it loves to play safe. But here is Woody Harrison, Flynt's impersonator, wearing the American flag as a nappy, flinging oranges at a judge and arguing all the way to the Supreme Court the right to suggest for satirical purposes that the Rev Jerry Falwell, high priest of the religious right, had sex with his own mother.

We expect confrontation from Oliver Stone, the film's co-producer. We expect eccentricities from scriptwriters Scott Alexander and Larry Karaszewski: they gave us *Salvador*. But we have forgotten to expect anything outlandish from Forman. True, he satirised Czech society in the 1960s and championed the American outsider in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. But since the 1980s Forman has either been lost to lavish period dramas or marooned on unfilled projects: this is his first film since *Valmont* in 1989. While a few notches below his very best work, *Larry Flynt* reminds us vividly of his humane and irreverent spirit, grasp of comic detail and knack for assembling an

**The People vs. Larry Flynt**  
Warner West End  
18, 130 mins  
Bracing portrait of the American pornographer

**Twin Town**  
Warner West End  
18, 99 mins  
Rough and nasty comedy drama set in Swansea

**The Empire Strikes Back**  
Odeon Leicester Square  
U, 126 mins  
... but doesn't deliver a knockout punch

**Bits and Pieces**  
Everyman, 15, 110 mins  
Absorbing tapestry of Italian life

**Total Eclipse**  
ABC Piccadilly  
18, 106 mins  
Unedifying drama about Rimbaud and Verlaine

If the film had been made closer to the events it describes, no doubt Forman's attack would be sharper: for all the outrageousness on display, the film is still soft round the edges. But even diluted anarchy is welcome when so much American cinema only offers more of the same: guns, blood and space ships.

If outrageousness comes naturally to a movie about Larry Flynt, in Kevin Allen's *Twin Town* you can feel the film-makers straining to outdo themselves in antisocial behaviour. We start with joyriding, drugs and solvent abuse: the British cinema's new calling cards following the success of *Trainspotting*, whose production team (Andrew Macdonald and Danny Boyle) helped to launch this latest missile. Only the particular regional setting — the mean streets and caravan parks of Swansea — provides any novelty.

Then, after a ragged comic half-hour, characters stop banging around the screen like pinballs and generate a tit-for-tat plot. The father of two tearaway brothers falls from a roof while working. The contractor (William Thomas) offers no compensation. The brothers (Rhys Ifans and Llyr Evans, real-life siblings) declare open warfare. A cherished poodle is decapitated. People are urinated upon, trussed up in their garage, set on fire. The malice and cruelty become overwhelming.

The film would be easier to bear if Kevin Allen, a television actor with some football documentaries to his credit, displayed a firm hand as a director. But he shoves his images on to the screen with the same reckless force by which his characters live. He can inspire vigorous performances and concoct vivid moments: take the roadside collision between the twins and a marching band in national dress. But he cannot



Courtney Love and Woody Harrison as Althea Leasure and Larry Flynt, the alternative all-American couple and everybody's favourite porn brokers

move the film forward from one scene to the next, or secure passing sympathy for the drug-dealers, bent coppers and fools who populate this Swansea. Two-fingered gestures are fine in cinema if there is real meaning, real rage, behind them: *Twin Town* is only being nihilistic and nasty because it is fashionable. "Set your weapons for stun," Darth Vader orders his minions in *The Empire Strikes Back*, like its predecessor, *Star Wars*, back on screen in a new edition. George Lucas and his director Irvin Kershner must have given their troops the same command when the film moved into active production in 1979. Compared to *Star Wars* there is more of everything: hurtling

space ships, laser beam battles, fantastic creatures, even human characterisation. "Improvements" to the new print include digital treatment of the opening snow battle, and an enlarged cityscape for the floating HQ of Billy Dee Williams's shifty Lando Calrissian.

Are we stunned? Not really, least of all by Yoda, the tiresome creature who furthers Luke Skywalker's understanding of the Force. But fans of the original will flock to see how time has treated Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher and company. The rest of us can shuffle off to the ABC Pantion Street, London, where a genuine cinema masterpiece, Orson Welles's *Citizen Kane*, is back on view.

Considering that some people are hammered to death and shot by a contract killer, the absorbing Italian film *Bits and Pieces* is remarkably sanguine about the cruelties of life. One reason, perhaps, is that nothing is dwelt upon: here is a film with more than 60 characters and some 30 miniature stories, woven together in a tapestry depicting one day in Rome from dawn to dusk.

This is the second feature of director Antonello Grimaldi, and he composes his city symphony with an affection shadowed by unease about urban pressures. He admits to the influence of Robert Altman, but the Altman of *Nashville* rather than *Short Cuts*. The film's cumulative

power derives in part from Grimaldi's use of trivial incidents: here are bruising encounters with shopkeepers and traffic wardens, casual revelations of deception and infidelity.

A few well-known faces dot the cast — Enrico Lo Verso, as a romantically inclined postman, will be the most familiar. But everyone blends in seamlessly in Rome's streets, offices and bars (not much time is spent at home). This is a ruminative, small-scale epic, a film to seek out and savour.

Bad behaviour is not the preserve only of Kevin Allen's Swansea. French 19th-century poets could be brutes too. Look at *Total Eclipse*, where Leonardo DiCaprio's Rimbaud spends far more time belch-

ing, spitting and stabbing Verlaine's hand than writing, while Verlaine himself (David Thewlis) enjoys kicking his pregnant wife.

The film, shot largely in France early in 1995, is a belated adaptation of Christopher Hampton's play, written when he was 18. He does not bring mature wisdom to revisiting his text: there is no suggestion that human flaws acknowledged, these two are great poets. Neither Agnieszka Holland's direction nor the cast help. Holland's close-ups emphasise the unsavoury; Thewlis is distinctly unpleasant, while DiCaprio's performance recalls the Tom Hulse effect in *Amadeus* — a European artist is turned into an American brat.

**9 OSCARS**  
**BEST FILM**  
BEST DIRECTOR — ANTHONY MINGHELLA

**"A STIRRING EPIC AND A GREAT LOVE STORY. YOU WILL NOT FORGET IT!"**  
— TOM SHONE, SUNDAY TIMES

**"A ravishing film, with a mystery and majesty rarely dared by film makers since the great days of David Lean."**  
— TIME MAGAZINE

RALPH FIENNES JULIETTE BINOCHÉ WILLEM DAFOE KRISTIN SCOTT THOMAS

**THE ENGLISH PATIENT**

AT CINEMAS EVERYWHERE NOW

## The making of Mandela

**Nigel Williamson meets the man who filmed South Africa's president**

For some reason the world's leading movie-makers have shied away from one of the most powerful sagas of the 20th century. The Nelson Mandela story is the very stuff from which instant legends — and epic movies — are made. Yet only now, seven years after he was freed from prison and three years after he was elected president, has Mandela become the subject of a full-length, big-screen, Oscar-nominated biopic.

The film director Jo Menell first suggested the picture to the ANC leader in 1993. For 20 years a hot-shot television correspondent, Menell had returned to his native South Africa following the lifting of a 20-year ban, and met Mandela at a family celebration.

"He is a very good friend of my brother Clive, who still lives there, and he came to my niece's wedding. I asked him how his autobiography was going, then I asked him who was making the film." No one, said Mandela. "I told him there and then that I wanted to make it. He said OK."

What Menell had in mind was not some glossy Hollywood blockbuster starring Morgan Freeman or Denzel Washington. But a war-and-all documentary based on unlimited fly-on-the-wall access in the run-up to the democratic elections of 1994. Mandela agreed without restriction, and also wrote to friends, family and colleagues asking them to co-operate.

"We agreed that Mandela would have the right to correct any factual errors but that was all," Menell says. "He told me to go out and look for criticism, he urged me to ask the difficult questions."

Some will say that in this last respect Menell has failed, but the director claims it was virtually impossible to find anyone prepared to criticise. There are no scenes in which Mandela loses his temper, behaves unreasonably or treats people badly — because,

says Menell, in seven months of constant filming, such moments simply never occurred. "The only discernible flaw concerns his children. 'He was a terrible father, never there for his kids, always putting politics first.' The film deals unflinchingly with the way Mandela cast aside his first wife, Evelyn, and the subsequent marriage to and separation from Winnie, who is interviewed at length. 'I am glad she comes across sympathetically because she went through a lot. I thought Mandela might ask us to remove his love letters from prison which she made available, but he kept to our agreement.'"

If Menell's film is not a critical portrait it is certainly a candid and intimate one. Mandela is seen making his own bed (a habit he has apparently been unable to break from prison days) and arguing with his aides over changing a shirt he has worn for two days ("people only look at my face").

Very rarely Mandela allows himself to become emotional; there can have been few more moving scenes on celluloid than Mandela's return to Robben Island. "I took him back for the first time and he looked around his old cell and said, 'Much smaller than I imagined.' Then he talked of his mother's last visit and how he knew he wouldn't see her again because she was very ill. I couldn't ask any other questions after that. He stood there in silence and we let the camera run."

The most revealing contrast between the private man and the public figurehead came

when Mandela learnt of the assassination of Chris Hani, the former chief of staff of the ANC's military wing. "He loved Hani, who was his logical successor. When he heard he put his head in his hands with grief for five minutes and said nothing. But he was meeting some white rugby team, big tough Afrikaans. He went out there and greeted every one of them and said pleased to meet you as if nothing had happened. There is the steel."

Menell's picture lost out as best documentary in the Oscars to the Muhammad Ali biopic, yet he is philosophical. "I didn't make this movie to be big box office. What I hope is that people will still be watching the video in years to come, that they will treasure it as a record of a most extraordinary event."

● *Mandela opens at the Ritzy in Brixton tomorrow, followed by selected regional release*

## 'A tour de force'

Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases...

□ **THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT**  
George Lamb, 18: The most snappy and acidic film I've seen about a porn-again Christian.  
Tim Thornton, 21: A tour de force from Milos Forman. A terrific cast: touching and hilarious throughout.  
Damian Samuels, 19: Well-acted and highly entertaining film which deserved more notice at this year's Academy Awards.  
Leslie Isaiah Thomas, 18: A moving and important film. Courtney Love's performance was appropriate.

□ **TWIN TOWN**  
George: A downbeat *Trainspotting* without the edge.  
Tim: A gripping romp, although in some places the violent thrills and the comedy



did not blend as well as they might have.  
Damian: *Shallow* Grave meets *Funny Bones* meets *Ivor the Engine* in this brilliant black comedy.  
Leslie: Will do for Wales what drugs and porn have done for Holland.

□ **THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK**  
George: Once again George Lucas delivers the goods. The second of the Big Three will no doubt double its cult following.  
Tim: A non-stop action-packed rollercoaster. If you see one out of the three *Star Wars* films make it this one.  
Damian: Unlike the *Police Academy* series, this proves that sequels can be equals.  
Leslie: Sinking stuff.



Jo Menell (rear) with his co-director Angus Gibson and Nelson Mandela during the seven months of filming

unforgettable performance

**ZOVIRAM**  
COLD SORE CREAM

it's a new world



## CHOICE 1

**George Orwell's *Animal Farm* plays at home and abroad**

VENUE: Previews begin tonight at the Young Vic

## CHOICE 2

**Return of the prodigal: Nigel Kennedy plays Hendrix and Bach**

VENUE: Tonight at the Festival Hall

## THE TIMES ARTS

## NEW VIDEOS

**Kurt Russell blasts out of futuristic Los Angeles, and Gary Cooper makes *A Farewell to Arms***

## NEW CDS

**EMI's Debut series celebrates Thomas Adès and other rising stars of classical music**

## Noisy, brutish... and Kurt



Kurt Russell returns as Snake Pliskens in John Carpenter's *Escape from L.A.*

## NEW ON VIDEO

**ESCAPE FROM L.A.** CIC, 15, 1996  
BLOWY futuristic action movie from John Carpenter, peddling much the same plot as his earlier *Escape from New York*. Kurt Russell returns, sporting his eyepatch, as the maverick felon Snake Pliskens, forced to save the President's neck and snatch a doomsday weapon from the anarchists who thrive in L.A.'s ruins. Satrie pokes through here and there, but imagination eventually gets trampled by noise and violence. Available to rent.

**COURAGE UNDER FIRE** Fox Guild, 15, 1996  
ALMOST the *Rashomon* of war movies, with its conflicting accounts of the past behaviour of a female army captain during Desert Storm, up for a posthumous Medal of Honour. Edward Zwick's flawed but interesting film asks intelligent questions as it probes characters' guilts and mysteries: though Meg Ryan's captain, snatched only in flashbacks, seems a gaping hole compared to Denzel Washington's lieutenant colonel, the tortured man preparing her report. Available to rent.

**DESTINATION MOON** Blue Dolphin, U, 1950  
VIEWED in the context of today's space movies, this planetary journey may seem as exciting as a trip to Sainsbury's. But George Pal's production - vaguely based on a Robert Heinlein novel - deserves re-

spect for its pioneering status, its Oscar-winning special effects and genuine concern for technical accuracy. The cast is serviceable, but Dick Wesson's wisecracking electronic engineer, meant as comic relief, proves no relief at all.

**A FAREWELL TO ARMS** Orbit Media, PG, 1932  
FORGET about Richard Attenborough's vacuous account of young Hemingway's romance in *In Love and War*. Better to see this vintage treatment of the novel Hemingway wrote about the experience, with Gary Cooper as the American ambulance driver during the First World War who falls in love with an English nurse (Helen Hayes). Few Hollywood directors could match Frank Borzage's skill in portraying the power of love, and the sensuous images go a long way to offset the creakier elements in the script.

**MULHOLLAND FALLS** PolyGram, 18, 1996  
GREAT gents' tailoring, great 1950s cars. But something is wrong with a mystery thriller when the period surface looms so large. We should be more concerned with Nick Nolte and the other hardcases at the LAPD and their quest to nail the murderers of Jennifer Connelly, head-hunting a shard of radioactive glass. Since the director is Lee Tamahori, New Zealand director of *Once Were Warriors*, the film's lack of punch is particularly saddening. A rental release.

GEOFF BROWN

## NEW CLASSICAL CDs: Adès sparkles; meticulous Mozart; Gheorghiu's note-perfect Puccini

## CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

**THOMAS ADES** *Life Story* (EMI Classics 5 66699 2) ★★  
EMI IS celebrating its centenary not only with an 11-CD box of 100 Years of Great Music (5 66182-193-2) but with a long-term project to provide a showcase for young musicians in a new *Debut* series. Thomas Adès, now 26, doubles as composer and pianist in one of the most exciting of the first nine releases.

Three of the piano pieces which revealed him as one of the most fluent and sparkily imaginative of young composers writing today: *Darkness visible*, a haunting recombination of Dowland's song in *darkness let me dwell*; *Still Something*, in which a strip of Blu-Tack is stuck over the central range of the piano strings and sets up a prismatic divided spectrum of sound; and *Traced Overhead*, a new

and intricate three-movement piano piece premiered in Cheltenham last summer. Here, too, is Adès's wonderful Op. 1, the song cycle *Five Elit Landscapes*, in which the composer, still young and easy under the apple boughs of New Hampshire, accompanies a flaming young soprano, Valérie Anderson.

Of the other eight *Debut* currently available, I have particularly enjoyed Nelson Goerner's *Chopin* (5 69701-2) and the *Classical Accordion Duets* of Geir Drangsvoll and James Crabb (5 69705-2).

## ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

**MOZART** *Piano Concertos K.456 & 466* Glauco/Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. *Nonesuch* 79439-2 ★★ ★★ £14.49  
WHILE there is no shortage of Mozart piano concerto cycles on disc, you should hasten to make room on the shelves for another, if this first instalment is anything to go by. The American pianist Richard

Goode, known to British audiences primarily for his Beethoven and Schubert, is partnered by the conductorless, modern-instrument Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. They have played together for many years, yet have still prepared these two performances meticulously, as is evident from every bar. Phrases are shaped impeccably, balances are precisely calculated and everything is guided by a unanimity of purpose impressive in an ensemble of such a size.

The concertos played are No 18 in B-flat Major (K.456) - one of the less hackneyed, but also one of Goode's favourites - and the dark-hued *Don Giovanni*-like No 20 in D Minor (K.466). The former has some wonderfully poignant moments too, especially in the Andante, which soloist and orchestra colour in affectionately. K.466 is approached in an almost Beethovenian spirit, a feeling reinforced by the use of the cadenza by the later master in the first movement.

## OPERA

John Higgins

**PUCCINI** *La rondine* Gheorghiu/Muia/Alagna/Matteucci/Rinaldi/LSO/Pappano  
EMI 7343 5 56338 2 (2 CDs) ★★ ★★ £25.99  
MAGDA, heroine of *La rondine*, and Verdi's *Violetta* are courtesans of a feather. Both fall for a boy from a good bourgeois family and pay the price of non-respectability. But Magda in Puccini's undervalued if sentimental opera at least lives to see another day, and probably another lover.

Angela Gheorghiu, after her highly successful *Traviata* with Solti, finds Magda also a role ideal for her talents, which grow by the year. Again she is marvellously supported by her conductor, this time Antonio Pappano, whose sup-

ple and responsive hands guide the London Symphony Orchestra through this gentler of Puccini's scores. *La rondine* might be slight, but Act II, in which Magda and Ruggero meet in a restaurant garden, is pure joy. Surrounded by pleasure-loving Paris, they have eyes and voice only for one another. *Bohème* is not far away.

Roberto Alagna shows at his best in the act's love duet. But this is the soprano's opera. She takes up the hit song, *Dorretta's Dream*, after the poet Fruin (William Matteucci, graceful if thin voiced) has started it, and commands the bewitching Act II waltz. And to Magda go the reflective moments at the close of each act. Gheorghiu is note-perfect in all of them.

Aware that Ruggero is not the most rewarding tenor role, EMI gives him the opening aria normally cut from the score and, to help fill up CD 2, includes another from Puccini's first opera, *Le villi*.

★ *Worth hearing*  
★★ *Worth considering*  
★★★ *Worth buying*

## LONDON

**ANIMAL FARM** Northern Stage's vigorous adaptation of Orwell's popular tale plays a short season in London before its international tour.

**THE HERBAL BED** Peter Whelan's theatrical play transfers from the Barbican some cast changes but Teresa Barmham continues to play Shakespeare's daughter, and Stephen Bower her Russian husband.

**NIGEL KENNEDY** The innovative violinist is joined by John Enbridge, guitar, and Rory McFarlane, double bass. In a programme which juxtaposes solo violin works by Bach and Bartók with acoustic interpretations of Jimi Hendrix.

**WALLACE & GROMIT** The Oscar-winning picture characters created by Nick Park make their theatrical debut in *A Grand Night Out*, a new comedy-adventure for all the family written and directed by Andrew Davis.

**ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA** Jonathan Oliver and Alphonse Emmanuel play the titanic lovers in Carol Matlack's production, set in 1940s Egypt and Rome.

**BRIDGEMAN** Bruce Lema, EMI (0171-836 3450). Previewed began tonight, 7.30pm. Opens April 11, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Sun, 4.30pm. Until May 3.

**CHOCOLATE** Northern Exposure actor Rob Morrow joins Kevin Knight's cast in Helen Wallace's fascinating version of the William Wharton novel.

**CHOCOLATE AND CHOCOLATE** An affair, a pregnancy, Bach and a big feature in this stage version of the best-selling radio play by Anthony Minghella.

**CRACKED** In Daniel Hill's crumbly comedy set in the desert, a cast of nine men, including Anthony Hall and Alexander Hanson, play members of an army unit intended to treat traumatised soldiers under pressure, they feel apart.

**THE CRIMINALS - UP FOR REVIEW** Four thespians including the actor for this guide, heeded their reputation by testing their skills at.

**FEVER PITCH** (16) Football-crazed teacher falls in love. Appearing version of Nick Hornby's book, with Colin Firth. Run: Caramel. Dates: David Evans. Caramel Picture House (0171-496 3323). Odeon: Kensington (0181-315 4214). Merle Arts (0161-315 4516). Brixton Picture House (0181-315 4220). West End (0181-315 4221). Ritz (0171-737 2121). UCL Whitehall (0171-737 2121). UCL Whitehall (0171-737 2121). UCL Whitehall (0171-737 2121).

**HARD MEN** (18) Tension among London lorry drivers. *Mercurius* British trailer in the Taramo market.

**THE MALE** (18) Jacques Audiard's compelling film about a boxer's resistance here in the Second World War, with Mathieu Kassovitz.

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## TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Macey

## ELSEWHERE

**CHURCHILL** High Street (0181-480 8871). Tonight, 7.45pm. Fri and Sat, 8pm and 9pm. Until April 18.

**ELSEWHERE** Regional premiere of Tom Stoppard's *Arctic*, offbeat and witty, set in a state home today and in the time of Byron.

**MANCHESTER** Genesis Tudor Press deans Corbett Theatre Company in Stewin Barlett's adaptation of *Valley of the Trolls*. With Matthew Davies.

**MOLD** Martin Duncan directs *Mold*, a play about the role of the artist in the world of the 19th century. *The Secret of Two Masters*. Zany musings will cook up a storm in the orchestra pit.

**THE POWER OF DARKNESS** Today's drama of adultery, murder and redemption in a Russian peasant household, translated by Anthony Clark and directed by Sean Holmes.

**THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES** Peter Bowles' comic and comic as Moore's dejected hero Eric Sykes, excellent as his finger-fingered servant, Pseudonym, Dorman Street, W1 (0171-360 1734). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat. Wed, 4pm, and Sat, 3pm.

**LONG RUNNERS** Buddy: Strand (0171-330 8800). *Grassie*: Cambridge (0171-494 5009). *An Inspector Calls*: Garrick (0171-360 1734). *Jesus Christ Superstar*: Lyceum (0171-496 1807).

**THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400). *Starlight Express*: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6264). *The Tenth Muse*: Lyceum (0171-494 5400).

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## THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of the theatre scene in London

**HOUSE OF COMMONS** *House of Commons* (0171-494 5400). Previewed began tonight, 7.30pm. Opens April 11, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Sun, 4.30pm. Until May 3.

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## CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

**THOMAS ADES** *Life Story* (EMI Classics 5 66699 2) ★★  
EMI IS celebrating its centenary not only with an 11-CD box of 100 Years of Great Music (5 66182-193-2) but with a long-term project to provide a showcase for young musicians in a new *Debut* series. Thomas Adès, now 26, doubles as composer and pianist in one of the most exciting of the first nine releases.

Three of the piano pieces which revealed him as one of the most fluent and sparkily imaginative of young composers writing today: *Darkness visible*, a haunting recombination of Dowland's song in *darkness let me dwell*; *Still Something*, in which a strip of Blu-Tack is stuck over the central range of the piano strings and sets up a prismatic divided spectrum of sound; and *Traced Overhead*, a new

and intricate three-movement piano piece premiered in Cheltenham last summer. Here, too, is Adès's wonderful Op. 1, the song cycle *Five Elit Landscapes*, in which the composer, still young and easy under the apple boughs of New Hampshire, accompanies a flaming young soprano, Valérie Anderson.

Of the other eight *Debut* currently available, I have particularly enjoyed Nelson Goerner's *Chopin* (5 69701-2) and the *Classical Accordion Duets* of Geir Drangsvoll and James Crabb (5 69705-2).

## ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

**MOZART** *Piano Concertos K.456 & 466* Glauco/Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. *Nonesuch* 79439-2 ★★ ★★ £14.49  
WHILE there is no shortage of Mozart piano concerto cycles on disc, you should hasten to make room on the shelves for another, if this first instalment is anything to go by. The American pianist Richard

Goode, known to British audiences primarily for his Beethoven and Schubert, is partnered by the conductorless, modern-instrument Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. They have played together for many years, yet have still prepared these two performances meticulously, as is evident from every bar. Phrases are shaped impeccably, balances are precisely calculated and everything is guided by a unanimity of purpose impressive in an ensemble of such a size.

The concertos played are No 18 in B-flat Major (K.456) - one of the less hackneyed, but also one of Goode's favourites - and the dark-hued *Don Giovanni*-like No 20 in D Minor (K.466). The former has some wonderfully poignant moments too, especially in the Andante, which soloist and orchestra colour in affectionately. K.466 is approached in an almost Beethovenian spirit, a feeling reinforced by the use of the cadenza by the later master in the first movement.

## OPERA

John Higgins

**PUCCINI** *La rondine* Gheorghiu/Muia/Alagna/Matteucci/Rinaldi/LSO/Pappano  
EMI 7343 5 56338 2 (2 CDs) ★★ ★★ £25.99  
MAGDA, heroine of *La rondine*, and Verdi's *Violetta* are courtesans of a feather. Both fall for a boy from a good bourgeois family and pay the price of non-respectability. But Magda in Puccini's undervalued if sentimental opera at least lives to see another day, and probably another lover.

Angela Gheorghiu, after her highly successful *Traviata* with Solti, finds Magda also a role ideal for her talents, which grow by the year. Again she is marvellously supported by her conductor, this time Antonio Pappano, whose sup-

ple and responsive hands guide the London Symphony Orchestra through this gentler of Puccini's scores. *La rondine* might be slight, but Act II, in which Magda and Ruggero meet in a restaurant garden, is pure joy. Surrounded by pleasure-loving Paris, they have eyes and voice only for one another. *Bohème* is not far away.

Roberto Alagna shows at his best in the act's love duet. But this is the soprano's opera. She takes up the hit song, *Dorretta's Dream*, after the poet Fruin (William Matteucci, graceful if thin voiced) has started it, and commands the bewitching Act II waltz. And to Magda go the reflective moments at the close of each act. Gheorghiu is note-perfect in all of them.

Aware that Ruggero is not the most rewarding tenor role, EMI gives him the opening aria normally cut from the score and, to help fill up CD 2, includes another from Puccini's first opera, *Le villi*.

★ *Worth hearing*  
★★ *Worth considering*  
★★★ *Worth buying*

## ART GALLERIES

**GORDON KING** "From the Studio" 20497-12567. A major exhibition of watercolours & oil. HULLTON GALLERY, 100, Regent Street, London W1. Tel: 0171 49



## THEATRE

Siân Phillips is magnificent, but la Dietrich is poorly served by the tepid *Marlene*

## POP 1

Cast show their limitations and superficiality in Dublin at the start of their big tour

## THE TIMES ARTS

## POP 2

... but Marianne Faithfull is hypnotic as she evokes Weimar Germany in her new show

## MUSIC

Sliding to fame: Christian Lindberg, virtuoso trombonist, has reshaped his own instrument

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale sees *Marlene* fall flat on its transfer to the West End

## Siân brighter than the star



Siân Phillips, "her tall, tapering figure encased in that glittering sheath" gives her considerable all as Marlene Dietrich. The legend herself is not nearly as forthcoming, and the likes of Lou Gish (right) are mere ciphers in Pam Gems's play

When I saw Pam Gems's *Marlene* in Oldham last October, I found myself less keen on the play than on the actress at its core. Despite the tinkering and tampering that has occurred since then, this remains the case. From the moment she swans up the aisle at the Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, magnificently trumpeting "Did I have a good trip? Is Bismarck a herring?", Siân Phillips is in effortless command of the faces blinking up at her. But is *Marlene* itself much more distinguished than those compendium shows that have recently been cranking the West End with tuneful tootles and potted bios? Not really.

Gems has always been fascinated by women who struggle to succeed in a male world. Hence her portraits of Queen Christina, Camille and, above all, the Piaf whom Dietrich regarded as "the empress" to her own "slave with the jar on the head". Whether or not that's a fair assessment, the French chanteuse emerges from the dramatic fray more interestingly and impressively than the German one. Piaf is the embattled survivor, feistily warring with her own self-destructive instincts. Dietrich is the glamorous grumpy who cannot resist the roar of the greasepaint, the smell of the crowd. For all Phillips's excellence, the emotional stakes are not nearly as high.

It is the 1960s, and Dietrich is making a comeback in Paris. She is tired, frightened, and alternately generous and bullying, self-deprecating and grandiose. One moment she is kneeling on her sable coat, mopping the floor like a hausfrau. The next she is spilling

names like fairy dust: Coward, Hemingway, Eisenhower, Picasso, Pompidou et al.

I enjoyed hearing that de Gaulle was "a friskier man than you think", and being told that Garbo's acting left Dietrich wondering if she "was suffering from some female problem down below", but couldn't help feeling that somewhere inside Gems is a *Hellol* reader, embarrassingly in awe of celebrity. Lou Gish appears as a lesbian aide and confidante and Billy Matthews as a mute drudge called Mutti; but so slight is their impact that *Marlene* is best seen as a one-person show with three actresses.

Phillips gives us some of the great songs, from *Lili Marlene* to *Falling in Love Again*, and, especially when her tall, tapering figure is encased in that famously glittering sheath, sounds pretty good. In between she tells us just a little about 1930s Hollywood ("a sleepy village on the edge of nowhere") and her variegated love-life, but virtually nothing about her Junkers upbringing or life with her pet Svengali, the director Josef von Sternberg.

Even so, Phillips does not falter and, when she comes to the Holocaust and her subsequent return to an accusing, rejecting Germany, considerably raises the temperature of Sean Mathias's production. Her people, her flesh, were complicit in the crimes of the century, and then they spat at her as a traitor! Phillips has only to whisper to make us share the pain and moral bewilderment. If only the rest of the evening demanded comparable depth of her.

## Sixties old, new and borrowed

## POP

Cast belong to that breed of traditional English rock bands who feel duty bound not only to pay their respects to their 1960s musical heritage but to exhumate its well-preserved corpse as well, writes Nick Kelly. The trick is to go that step further and boldly reanimate the cadaver — the most spectacular practitioners being Oasis, who helped to make the charts safe for a trilogy of Beatles anthologies. Regrettably, at the Red Box, Dublin, the finely balanced set of new and familiar material from John Power and chums felt more like a peck on the cheek than the kiss of life. Perhaps the best way to go about it, as avant-garde tearaways Tricky, the Chemical Brothers and, in America, Beck have shown, is to drag half the graveyard back to the laboratory and conduct the most outlandish experiments that one's imagination will allow.

Alas, the Liverpoolian three-chord classicists, instead of transcending their limitations, revel in them. So many of their songs seem made to order: a brief guitar intro that shows which particular three-chord sequence is on duty, followed by the cavalry charge of the rhythm section, and then it's every verse chorus/verse for himself.

There's nothing intrinsically wrong with this tried and tested approach. Indeed, *Alright, Finetime and Sandstorm* — all Top Ten singles from their mega-selling debut album *All Change* — have a spring in their step that ups the pace considerably, but many of the songs, most notably *On The Run* and the current single *Free Me* from the new album *Mother Nature Calls*, can't keep up.

The show eventually burnt itself out with the shrieking guitar indulgence of *Two of a Kind* and, although it is tempting to excuse the band's rather slovenly and workmanlike performance as a common

opening night ailment, no such malady afflicted the Manic Street Preachers, who recently also began a lengthy tour in this city. Cast must dig deeper in future.

Marianne Faithfull ended her UEA show in Norwich with a weatherbeaten version of *As Tears Go By*, her first hit from 30 years ago. *John Sreer* writes. Then she was a pale, vulnerable convent girl; now she is a grandmother who has kicked a drug habit and made some fine rock albums. And when she sashays on stage, fixing her audience with a steady stare and a broad smile, she manages to summon up an entire era — from wide-eyed innocence to world-weary determination.

Although ostensibly an evocation of Weimar Germany, this 90-minute set is more autobiography than social history. It may be loosely pegged to the career of Kurt Weill, but it is more securely anchored to her own story.

Weill's collaborations with Bertolt Brecht provide her with the opportunity to act out tiny musical dramas. With *Alabama Song*, *Pirate Jenny* and *Sarahay Johnny*, she is the angry victim. With *Mack the Knife* and *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency*, she is the cynical observer musing on the world's harsh ways.

She may not always hit the note, and her accent may slip erratically, from Cockney to Home Counties, but her husky voice is a perfect medium for Weill's melodies. Only when she borrows from Noël Coward does she fail.

A table, chair and stool are her only props, and pianist Paul Trueblood her only companion. But with these and some nicely told stories Faithfull provides an evening in which the attractions divide equally between the songs, the singing and the singer.

## Blowing his own patent

The fax machine was the only part of the rambling apartment high on Stockholm's Valhallavägen over which my prying eyes were forbidden to wander. I could pan over the piles of laundry for four children, the wallpaper-jigsaw of their paintings, the old Swedish tiled stove. But this machine was out of bounds. It had just yielded the formula for a revolutionary type of trombone valve: the definitive Christian Lindberg model is about to be patented.

The instrument itself has never quite recovered from Lindberg's assault on it when he was 17. From a school Dixieland band, Lindberg descended into the Stockholm Opera pit — orchestras where where trombones lived in those days. After a year he climbed out and decided he would either have to quit music altogether, or go his own way. He packed his trombone, studied in London and Los Angeles, then came home and won the Nordic Soloists' Biennale.

## MUSIC: Hilary Finch meets the trombonist who has invented an instrument to meet his needs

Lindberg was snapped up by the BIS record company, and a worldwide search for repertoire for the trombone began. He found and published lost concertos by Mozart's father and by Michael Haydn. Within 15 years, too, more than 50 new works had been composed specially for Lindberg.



Christian Lindberg: have trombone, will experiment

Of course, a brave and ever-expanding new world of brass virtuosos needed not only new composers but new, more flexible instruments, too — which is where the secret formula valve comes in. Lindberg has already experimented with different metals and a new mouthpiece: now the complicated maze of plumbing, invented in the 1830s to help with low notes, is being replaced by a single, curving valve, manipulated into gear-change by one speedy thumb-click.

"The fewer the bends, the straighter the instrument, the clearer the sound," Lindberg explains. "It's as simple as that. What I have done is to try

to restore the unique, divine voice of the pre-valve trombone, while retaining the flexibility of the valve."

The new Christian Lindberg trombone, set to be the Rolls-Royce of the instrument, will be tried out at the weekend in Birmingham's two-week Sounds of Sweden festival. Tomorrow's world premiere of a piece commissioned by Iannis Xenakis in his 75th birthday year, for Lindberg and the eight marimbas of the Swedish percussion ensemble Kronarna, will be followed on Sunday by another festival premiere, Jan Sandström's *Cantos de la Mancha*.

Sandström, Lindberg's closest collaborator, is the man who changed the trombone into a Harley-Davidson in the *Motorbike Concerto* of 1989, a musical experience once heard — and seen — never forgotten. *Cantos* is a new 15-minute concerto which is a pocket version of the 35-minute *Don Quixote de la Mancha* to be premiered by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra next month.

In *Cantos de la Mancha* Lindberg frequently has to sing and play at the same time, and does one or two other things besides. "By the end, I really feel that I have been a human being," he says. "I have made all the mistakes that are not allowed for a soloist. I have thrown everything off, done it all, revealed everything." Birmingham may never be the same again.

• Xenakis's *Xylos*, tomorrow: Sandström's *Cantos de la Mancha*, Sunday: both at 7.30pm, Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham (0121-212 3333)

## THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERS

**LONDON**  
Arts Theatre  
Apr 21-22 (7pm)  
• WHAT do the poetic inhabitants of a mythical Welsh seaside town and a farmyard of politically active animals have in common? The answer is Guy Masterson, whose one-man evocations of *Under Milk Wood* and *Animal Farm* were hits at the Edinburgh Festival and are now set to take London by storm. Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £9 and £14) for *Milk Wood* (Apr 21) and *Animal Farm* (Apr 22). Tel 0171-836 3334, quoting your membership number

**Lyric, Hammersmith**  
To Apr 19  
• THE Lyric was once famous for its revues — smart, sharp-witted evenings that looked at life through comedy and music. Now the revue is back, and *Then Again...* is packing them in with its combination of old favourites and specially

commissioned new work by a group of distinguished writers including Richard Curtis, Julian Clary, Steven Fry and Harold Pinter. Performers include Desmond Barratt, Dawn French, Sheila Hancock and Neil Murrin, with John Gould accompanying proceedings at the piano (as they used to say). Tickets £12.50 (normally £15). Tel 0181-741 2311

**Young Vic**  
Apr 21-22  
• ABSURD, comic and poignant, *Captain of the Birds* is a new play by Edward Carey, inspired by the life and work of the celebrated French writer and pilot, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, who used his experiences during the dangerous early days of aviation to explore the innocence and mystery of childhood in classics such as

## THE TIMES THEATRE CLUB

*The Little Prince*. Two tickets for the price of one (normally £8). Tel 0171-928 6363

**New End Theatre**  
April 13-14; 20-21  
• TOM KEMPINSKI, actor and writer of such classics as *Duet for One* and *Separation*, returns to the stage after an absence of 25 years in the one-man show, *Heinrich Heine vs Nikolai Gogol*, based on the works of the famous Jewish radical poet and the Russian reactionary. Two tickets for the price of one (normally £8). Tel 0171-794 0022

**TO JOIN** the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO2 8JL, or telephone 01306 25145 using your credit card. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general inquiries call 0171-387 9673

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# When the sun finally set in the East

Lawrence Norfolk learns why the wheels had to fall off the European powers' imperial rickshaws

A glance at the map which prefaces John Keay's latest book adumbrates the problem which faces any historian of the Far East: it looks like the aftermath of an explosion. Peninsulas dangle off filigreed coastlines and islands pit the sea like grapes. There are, literally, thousands of them, including three of the world's four largest and a majority of the smallest. Historians have been known to wander for years in this tangle of detail. Some never come out.

Students of Britain's history in the East know John Keay for a mastery (and, more rare yet, readability) history of the East India Company which avoided the trap of trying to work out what exactly "The Company" was by concentrating instead on what it did. A similarly inspired slicing of the Gordian knot is apparent in *Last Post*.

Keay begins with an overview of the situation to 1930. The Dutch held what is now Indonesia while, across the Malacca Strait, the British held present-day Malaysia along with Singapore, Shanghai, Sarawak, Hong Kong, Weihaiwei, Johore, Labuan, and the Dindings. Many of these names were even less familiar in 1930 than they are now. Some were not actually colonies at all but protectorates, and others were leased. The French claimed present-day Vietnam, Laos, and



Bowing out of empire: a poster depicting the 1963 union of Singapore, Sabah, Sarawak and Malaysia into the new Malaysia; but by 1965 Singapore — the young man in shirt and trousers — had left to go it alone.

**LAST POST**  
The End of Empire in the East  
By John Keay  
John Murray, £22  
ISBN 0 7195 5346 6

Cambodia, together with some tenuous footholds in China, while America had ejected and supplanted the Spanish in the Philippines only 30 years before. There was no "Empire" as such, but rather "empires", all differently acquired, maintained, and regarded by the different colonial powers.

Faced with this material, Keay's method is to set seemingly isolated incidents within the much wider context that produced them. Thus the development of Bali's tourist industry is sourced in a book of 1930 called *The Last Paradise* (typical sentence: "The bronze bowls of her maiden breasts projected angular, living shadows"). But it is also traced back to the massacres by which the Dutch first pacified then colonised the island in 1906-08.

Some "incidents" remain so singular that even Keay cannot incorporate them into his narrative. The acquisition of Sarawak by the "White Raj" of the Brooke family is one such. Captain James Brooke was awarded the sovereignty of Sarawak by the Sultan of Brunei in the 1840s in return for his actions against the pirates of the South China Sea. Finding themselves acclaimed as popular rulers by their subjects, the Brooke dynasty then spent the next hundred years trying to extricate themselves from their kingdom, only truly succeeding in 1941 when Sarawak was invaded by the Japanese. Keay comments: "An anachronism as well as an anomaly, Sarawak nicely encapsulated the contradictions of British empire in the East."

That sentence is the sound that one hand makes when thrown up in bewilderment. It is a sound rarely heard in *Last*

*Post* because Keay has not only mastered his vast mass of material but also resolved to stick to it. This can result in some magnificently insouciant compressions: "As the Chinese empire became a stunning republic and then an erratic experiment in Marxist-Leninist socialism..." or, even better, "Like one stricken with senile impotence, the British found that losing the means to perform coincided with losing the inclination."

Cleaving to the faultlines whose gradual widening he charts, hopping between flashpoints and bridgeheads, Keay still manages to evoke the slow and near-invisible movement which brought the European empires to their various ends. Its causes, by Keay's reckoning, were: race, nationalism, stupidity, muddle, the Second World War, and the Dakota transport plane. Add British absentmindedness, Dutch intransigence, French arrogance, and American naivety, and it is a wonder, or a horror, that the Empire existed at all.

Keay himself succumbs to neither reaction. *Last Post* is a model of narrative history, coolly presented and perfectly paced. It espouses no Grand Theory, preferring instead the far more difficult task of telling a vast, complicated, and still-controversial story with both passion

and insight. Keay's triumph is to render this story intelligible without being forced to sacrifice the details, for the details are the point. If there was a single factor which would render the Empires of the Far East ultimately ungovernable from without, it was their delicious heterogeneity.

To end by way of an illustration, here is Josef von Sternberg, as quoted by Keay, confronting a multi-storey pleasure palace in 1930s Shanghai: "When I had entered the hot stream of humanity there was no turning back even had I wanted to... The fifth floor featured girls whose dresses were slit to the armpits, a stuffed whale, story-tellers, balloons, peep-shows, masks, a mirror-maze, two love-letter booths whose scribes guaranteed results, rubber goods, and a temple filled with ferocious gods and joss sticks."

Keay navigates this world of smoke and mirrors with the confidence of his considerable learning and the result is a stylish book of clarity and argumentative vigour.

Lawrence Norfolk's latest novel, *The Pope's Rhinoceros*, is published by Minerva, priced £6.99.

Roger Scruton embarks for the outer limits

## In theory, the answer to everything

Few scientists would attempt what Deutsch has attempted, which is to summarise the entire scientific enterprise and give a theory of everything — or rather, a theory of the theory of everything, a kind of scientific prediction of what the final theory will be. It is regarded as a defect in an ordinary mortal, that he should be "dazzled by science". But Deutsch is a dazzled scientist who also sets out to dazzle, rejoicing like a child in his aerobatics as he vaults through the intellectual stratosphere, throwing paradox upon paradox to the mortals below.

Deutsch recognises that we cannot know everything. But we could have a theory of everything. Such a theory would give the "laws of motion" of the universe — the laws which explain how one state arises from another. Of course, laws of motion are not enough. We must also state the initial conditions. But we could, Deutsch believes, extrapolate to the beginning of time from our present data, and so provide an explanation of the world. There are "four strands" in this explanation: quantum physics, epistemology (the theory of knowledge), computer science, and evolutionary biology. Add these together and the mystery of the universe dissolves — though into a far greater mystery. The world turns out not to be a universe at all, but a "multiverse", in which a continuum of universes jostle side by side in suffocating abundance.

Time stands still in this multiverse, and you can voyage through it in any direction, provided you don't mind ending up in another universe. (Actually, it is not you who will end up there, but your "counterpart".) The distinction between reality and virtual reality disappears, and nothing important distinguishes us from the rest of nature apart from the capacity to represent it — a capacity that we share with computers, of which we are in any case composed. But although time does not flow, the world advances towards

### THE FABRIC OF REALITY

By David Deutsch  
Allen Lane, £25  
ISBN 0 713 99061 9

its "omega point", when a society of computational beings will emerge, each part of a universal computer in which all information is stored. This computer, being omniscient, omnipresent and omnipotent, is the God of Spinoza: one who might hear our prayers, while barred by logic from responding.

These gleeful paradoxes are arrived at in a manner familiar from Sir James Jeans's *Mysterious Universe*. The au-



Deutsch: rather too optimistic

thor presents the bare bones of a scientific theory, the essence of which is mathematical, and then provides a homely model in terms that are not mathematical at all, and which, if taken literally, lead instantly to paradox. Seizing on the paradox, the author then deletes the theory. The "multiverse" interpretation of quantum physics (due to Hugh Everett) is "proved" by showing that light is composed of particles, which behave like waves. This is observable (and Deutsch provides an exciting summary of the experiment). It is also what quantum mechanics predicts. A single photon filtered through a slit will therefore generate interference patterns. How is this possible?

The correct response to that question is: where's the contra-

dition? But it is here that the model takes over. We imagine that the photon is being interfered with by another particle, though one that we are forbidden to observe, since it is not part of our universe. Ergo, there is not one universe but two. Hang on, though. That other universe will also obey the laws of quantum mechanics, and particles there will be shadowed by their counterparts. Hence a third universe; and a fourth. Go down this line and the result is not "billions" of universes, as Deutsch says, but infinitely many. They will have the character of "possible worlds", those devices familiar from modal logic, which seem to solve problems only by creating insoluble problems of their own. To imagine that the "multiverse" is a theory of anything, let alone of everything, is to beg every philosophical question about the nature of theories.

Deutsch does not mind doing this. In his chapter on epistemology he leans as uncritically on Popper as he leans on Everett. He rightly points out that scientific theories are proposed in response to problems. But since he says nothing about the nature of a scientific problem this leaves everything exactly as it was. Suppose you asked why the first chord of *Tristan* is resolved onto the dominant seventh of A minor. That is a real question — one of the most important questions there is. But it is not a scientific question.

And that, in the end, is what is so dispiriting about this book — that it shows no awareness of the limits of science. It is easy to be brilliant when expounding the Darwinian theory of human nature, or the implications of Turing's Principle. But the glare of this instant science causes us to avert our eyes. We lose sight of the real universe, and confront a multiverse of shadows, in which there are no human beings, but only their intergalactic counterparts, looking at Deutsch looking on the inside cover of this book — glowing with an "unscrupulous optimism".

## Talking through his Euterpean hat

William Fiennes

### A WAY OF BEING

By Ben Okri  
Phoenix House, £12.99  
ISBN 1 85780 41 2

some abstractions.

The book gets no better. *Creativity and the Minotaur* is a short monograph on Picasso's *Minotaur* (which is a short monograph on Picasso's *Minotaur*). "The Minotaur," Okri writes, "is the enigma at the heart of the modern age." "Is it?" you want to ask. "In a sense," Okri continues, "the Minotaur cannot be conquered." Again you want to press him: "which sense is that, exactly?" There is more revelation in the art criticism of Sister Wendy. His meditations on *Othello* are similarly quotidian. Mostly

these "essays" consist of strings of vatic pronouncements: "These are strange times. Many things stifle our dreams. We may be getting smaller. We should beware of turning into rhinoceri." We sure should.

But like the oracle at Delphi, to whom Okri's voice bears some resemblance, and I don't mean that in a good way, these assertions allow no opportunity for redress. They are delivered into the vacuum of their own assumed value. Okri scorns the "antagonists" and "enemies" of poets: the politicians, heads of state, kings, and soldiers who "curb the poet's vision of reality". The existence of John Donne (soldier and religious leader) or Vaclav Havel (head of state) shows up the idiocy of Okri's scheme. A poet sings not songs but "dithyrambs" — for no

reason other than that Okri likes the word's spurious Classical blessing.

Grandiloquence is not the same thing as intelligence, nor can portentousness do duty for wisdom. Seamus Heaney's essays are a cogent and moving defence of poetry, next to which Okri's seems a hollow sort of self-congratulation. George Steiner's *Real Presences* is a real, inspiring argument for the religious dimension of art. Okri makes much of the image of a dancer who represents "the courage to go beyond ourselves", though set this beside any of Yeats's poems on the same subject — *Sweet Dancer* or *To a Child Dancing in the Wind* or *A Crazy Girl* and you will see how this book that makes such a clamour about poetry and wonder is itself so bereft of those qualities.

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At least 100,000 people were murdered in Guangxi province in south western China during the first years of the Cultural Revolution. Some hundreds were eaten. Many thousands participated in the cannibalism. Liu Binyan, China's best known investigative journalist told me: "Of course in Guangxi itself the cannibalism was known about from top to bottom. But we didn't dare publish the story. It was

Jonathan Mirsky

### THE SCARLET MEMORIAL

Tales of Cannibalism in Modern China

By Zheng Yi

Edited and translated by T. P. Sym

Westview Press, £23.95

ISBN 0 819 5615 X

too cruel and too dirty." The horror was investigated by the Party in the early Eighties, internal documents were prepared, and punishments were administered, although the authorities had ordered, supervised and joined in the killing and eating. A few were expelled. But most of the documents were concealed "out of fear that such evidence, if leaked to Hong Kong journalists, would reveal just how widespread cannibalism had been in Guangxi." We now have, in *Scarlet*

## A political hunger sated



Bucolic vision? On this apparently peaceful site in Sishao village Deng Jifang, son of a local landlord, was eaten

*Memorial*, a full study of this matter. The author, Zheng Yi, a well-known Chinese novelist and journalist, once an enthusiastic Red Guard who visited Guangxi briefly in 1968, recalls the poster in Tiananmen referring to "The slaughter of

100,000 people in Guangxi", and soon "the more astonishing and incredible news [which] swept Beijing: cannibalism in Guangxi." In 1986, he returned to Guangxi, obtained the records, interviewed officials and survivors

— and several cannibals who felt no shame. We did it for Mao, they said. After Tiananmen, Mr Zheng, now on Beijing's Most Wanted list for his participation in the Tiananmen demonstrations, fled from China,

bearing the documents. I interviewed him in 1993, when he said, "For the first time in our long history, Chinese ate people, not because there was a famine and they were starving to death, but for political reasons." According to his

book there were other periods during the Communist revolution when "enemies" were eaten, but Guangxi is the great case.

I cannot recommend that you read this book. It is plainly written, utterly convincing, meticulously documented and terrible to read. Mr Zheng's quotations are vivid, lurid... Here is Yi Wansheng, killer and cannibal: "To engage in revolution, my heart is red! Didn't Chairman Mao say 'Kill or be killed'? If I live, you must die. Class struggle!" Mr Zheng told me: "I spoke to some of the people who ate political victims. They didn't feel guilty at all. Most of them just said: 'That's what it was like in Guangxi — then. We all did bad things. I wouldn't eat anyone now.'"

Mr Zheng, ex-Red Guard, has thought about why. "We attempted to bring about a beautiful society," he writes. "We thought that after treading through the quagmire of blood... we would be able to face the most magnificent dawn in the history of mankind. Instead we consorted with the beasts."

No cannibal in Guangxi was punished. Wei Guoqing, a comrade in arms of Deng Xiaoping, who had been Guangxi Party Secretary during the cannibalism, was elevated to Head of the Chinese Army's Political Department. Mr Zheng reports him as saying "Why shouldn't those who committed cannibalism be promoted as cadres?"





# Shriven on the holy isles

Jan Morris on the harsh lives of the ancient monks of Skellig

SUN DANCING

By Geoffrey Moorhouse  
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £18.99  
ISBN 0 297 81505 4

Nobody but Geoffrey Moorhouse, I think, could have written this wonderfully imaginative book about one of the most remarkable religious settlements of western Christianity, the medieval Celtic monastery on the Irish islands of Skellig. It is a subject precisely suited to his particular gifts — a feel for things spiritual, a tough taste for the ascetic, a grave and disciplined descriptive prose, human sympathy and absolute honesty. Others might taint the subject with the lurid or the sensational, or alternatively deaden it with book-learning: Moorhouse, to my mind, gets the mixture just right, and gives us an almost hallucinatory vivid re-enactment of a very peculiar human experience.

It was in the 6th century that monks of the Celtic Church first settled on the precipitous, uninhabited and storm-swept Skelligs, which lie eight miles in the Atlantic off the coast of Co Kerry. They remained

there, in conditions of appalling voluntary hardship, until the 13th century. Since then the islands have been uninhabited again, except for transient hermits, pilgrims, lighthouse keepers and tourists, but there remain the stone walls and ruined oratories of the monastery: from these relics, high on the inaccessible flanks of the main island, and from sketchy historical records, Moorhouse has reconstructed the story of the Skellig monastery, start to finish.

It is a weird tale of holy self-denial — pointless to unbelievers, inspiring, I suppose, to

those who can accept that an entirely introspective and unproductive way of life, centred around constant prayer and masochistic discomfort, in some way brings the soul closer to God. Devised in the first place by the holy men of Middle Eastern deserts, living on the tops of pillars or immured in caves for years at a time, this mode of dedication seems even more grotesque when it is translated to the fierce seas of the Atlantic, and to add to the terrible nature of the islands, time and again the monks were raided by Vikings — just as awful as the fabulous beasts and forked devils who plagued the Desert Fathers.

The first part of the book, "The Tradition", consists entirely of Moorhouse's reconstruction of life on the Skelligs during their monastic centuries. This is masterly, written

with great restraint and scholarly care, and utterly convincing in its evocation of mortifications, mind-sets and charged emotions on those inhospitable slabs. The second part, entitled "The Evidence", is really a collection of long footnotes, disguised as proper chapters and detailing the reasons behind the book's imaginative conjectures. I thought this less satisfactory. I was perfectly happy not to know the reasons, having complete trust in Moorhouse's integrity, and I thought they made anti-climatic reading after the sombre work of art that came before.

So I sometimes found myself skimming through explanatory passages about the Synod of Whitby and the Monastic Horarium, and have already forgotten most of their learned allusions. I shall always remember, though, my nights and days on the Skelligs themselves, in the company of Moorhouse and those long-dead monks: hoe-



God's little acres: the islands of Skellig were home to a monastic order for 700 years

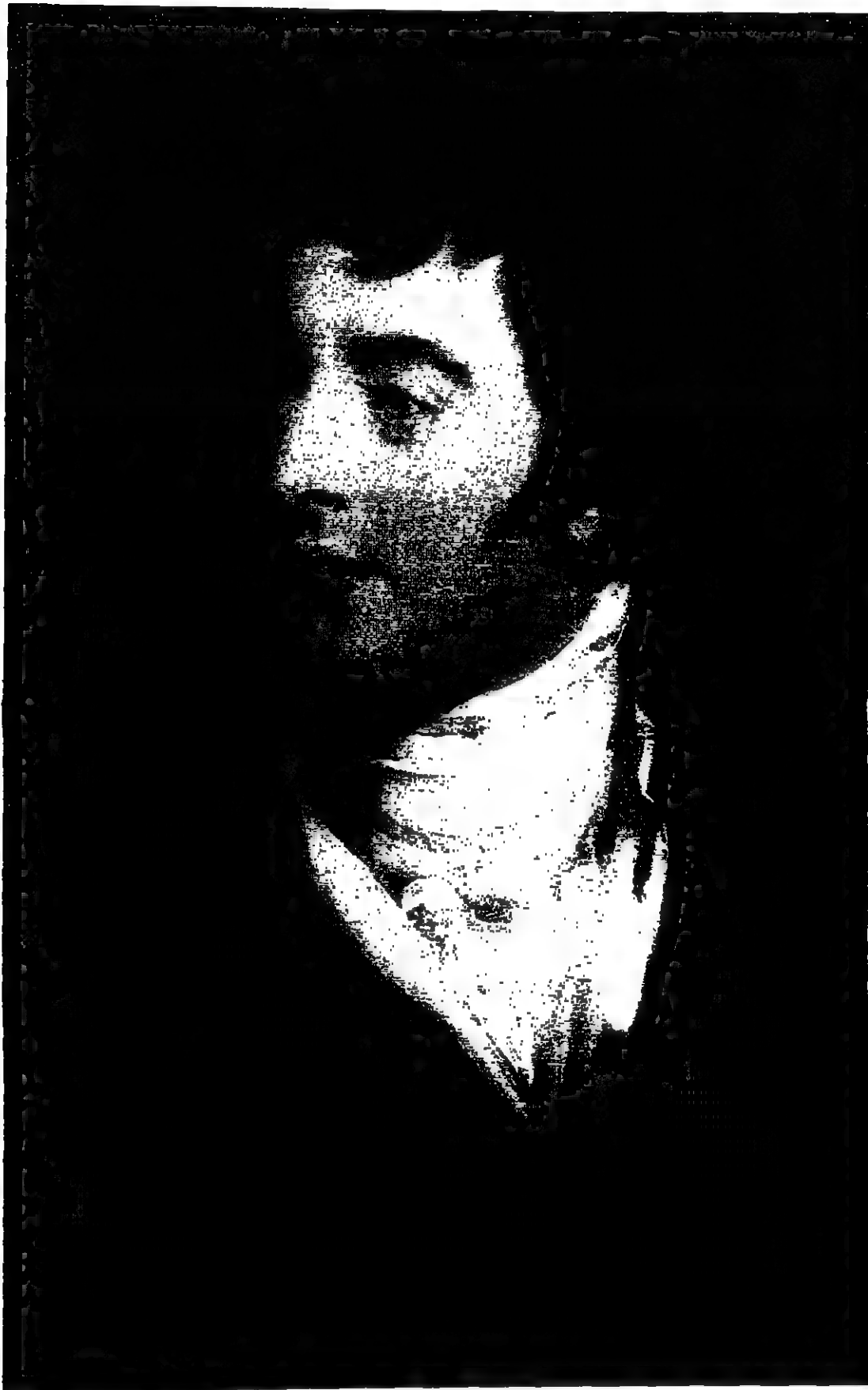
ing the sparse gardens in the teeth of the wind, gathering the fish from the pool nets among the rocks, chanting in the cold as the dawn broke, fighting the demons of self-esteem, performing harsh

penances at the abbot's command, watching the sun dance in ecstatic vision, assembling terrified up the acres when the lion-prow of a Viking longship slides into view among the rocks below.

It is as though I were really there, just as, if I believed in such things, I could almost suppose that in some previous incarnation Geoffrey Moorhouse was a monk on the Skelligs himself.

# A rebel to the manor born

Peter Ackroyd on the extraordinary life of an 18th-century aristocratic Irish revolutionary



"The epitome of radical chic": Fitzgerald by Hugh Douglas Hamilton, two years before his death

In the infinitely complicated and ambiguous history of Ireland, Lord Edward Fitzgerald emerges as one of its most ambivalent figures. He was a brother of the premier poet of that country, but he attempted to mount a revolution. He adored his family, and spent half his life gardening, but he advocated violence as the surest means of subverting the established authorities.

It had all begun so differently. He was born, in 1763, a Kildare, the great Irish family which alternately confused and bedevilled English monarchs by claiming local sovereignty without demanding complete independence. By the middle of the 18th century, when "Pretty Eddy" was first presented to an adoring world, it was still the most powerful force in the country. "Eddy", pretty or not, could only add lustre to the name. "Tis an almost perfect little being," his mother wrote, "literally having no fault, but too much warmth of temper." It might almost be his epitaph.

He was protected, and cosseted, with entirely predictable results. All his life he remained amiable and confident, but obstinate: he was energetic and optimistic, but unpredictable. He was educated by his doting mother on Rousseauist principles and, in the notorious phrase of the 1770s, developed into "a man of feeling" susceptible and refined in equal measure. He would have led an agreeable life if he had remained at home and devoted that sensibility to private pursuits; but, instead, he roamed abroad and took a larger view.

He joined the Army, of course as an officer, and first saw battle at Charleston during the American War of Independence. Here a liberated African slave, Tony Small, saved his life, the saviour became his servant and soon the two men were inseparable. It was the first occasion when Edward Fitzgerald's belief in the "equality of man" was put into practice. It was also to become the principal, if fatal, thread of his life. A subsequent visit to Nova Scotia, where he was made a chief of the Iroquois, only confirmed his egalitarianism. So, on his return to London, he became an enthusiastic supporter of the French Revolution and of Tom Paine's *Rights of Man*.

He has not been treated with entire seriousness by contemporary historians. Roy Foster in his *Modern Ireland*, describes him as "the

epitome of radical chic". He was, indeed, a radical of a philosophical rather than a native kind. Stella Tillyard justifiably depicts him as a product of the Enlightenment, who always remained "cosmopolitan" rather than "national". In that sense he was closer to Fox than to Blake but, in her very vivid depiction of late 18th-century London, Tillyard notes the ease with which he could travel from the Whig drawing rooms of Piccadilly to the dissenting bookshops of St Paul's Churchyard. For one moment, they were allied. But then the moment ended.

The twin forces of domestic oppression and French fanaticism led many erstwhile liberals to renounce their allegiance to the revolutionary cause. But Lord Edward Fitzgerald was different.

CITIZEN LORD

By Stella Tillyard  
Chato & Windus, £16.99  
ISBN 0 7011 6536 3

He renounced only his title, and moved to Paris. He no longer powdered his hair. More significantly, perhaps, he planned an armed revolution in Dublin on the same pattern as that of his French comrades.

Tillyard offers a very convincing portrait of this colourful, if somewhat startling, figure. *Citizen Lord* is an example of history aspiring to the condition of a good novel; it is by no means an idiosyncratic effort on her part, since this has become an age when the traditional forms of fiction and history are breaking apart. That is why she is able to comprehend historical facts with the imagination of an artist rather than that of a simple chronicler. Her previous book was entitled *Aristocrats*, and in this new work she is particularly good at conveying the life of the late 18th-century Irish peerage, bibulous and spendthrift, lounge when not entirely demoted.

This was the world from which Fitzgerald came, and in part it explains the particular nature of his radicalism. As an impecunious younger son of a grand family, he was in turn patronised and rejected by his more wealthy or powerful relatives: he was a "man of feeling" who interpreted the world in terms of private sentiment and as a result came to believe that, in Tillyard's words, English society itself was

both "divisive and heartless".

So he became a rebel. He travelled to Dublin, and was soon associated with the United Irish; he consorted with French agents, and urged the Directory to mount an armed invasion of Ireland. He wished to create a popular republic: he wore light green cravats and began to learn Gaelic. At first it was believed that he was only "playing revolution", in the phrase of his contemporaries, but he was very serious indeed.

He is now almost unknown to name and fame. He is one of those curious figures who somehow seem to slip out of history, although they were of vast significance in their own time. Thomas Moore, the balladeer, ran to look at him in the street because his "name had, from my school days, been associated with all that was noble, patriotic and chivalrous". So why has he been forgotten? He is an anomaly; he offends historical decorum by being both a revolutionary and an aristocrat, a lord and a democrat. He also failed, and historians of the old progressive school do not dwell upon failure.

That is why Tillyard's book is so welcome. It is also very timely in the sense that, in recording the fatal career of one extraordinary man, she is able to draw suggestive parallels with certain aspects of contemporary Irish life. She describes the policy of "terror and repression" by which late 18th-century government was conducted in that country; here are some of the earliest records of internments, punishment beatings, and caches of arms. The world of the United Irishman was one where "anyone might be an informer, anyone a spy".

It was in fact espionage which destroyed Fitzgerald's attempt at armed revolution. He travelled only at night. He wore a heavy disguise and was always surrounded by armed bodyguards. Yet an informer traced him: he was arrested and, after being shot, imprisoned in Dublin Castle. The rebellion of 1798 ended in defeat and disaster for the United Irishmen, while its leader lay dying in a prison cell. But Edward Fitzgerald is not to be admired, or even pitied. Tillyard herself has simply tried to understand him and, in that act of understanding, she is able to convey an essential truth about the man and his period.

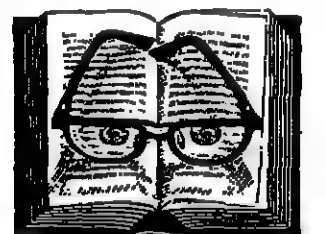
# On the lookout from here

THE London Topographical Society has been publishing maps, views and plans of the capital since 1880. Although its publications include a colour satellite view of London (88 x 62 cm), most of them are historical. The society's very first book was a facsimile of Anthony Wyngeard's panorama of 1544, and 115 years later a new facsimile has been produced with scholarly information about the artist and the identifiable buildings. The panorama is, in the words of Howard Colvin's introduction, "the first known attempt at a comprehensive topographical record", but also the last glimpse of the medieval city as it stood before the Reformation which resulted in the disappearance of so many of its principal religious monuments.

Wyngeard is presumed to have worked with Henry VIII's assent, and he loyally shows the heads of traitors on their poles on Old London Bridge. He is not always reliable — church towers are transposed and details are omitted — but it is remarkable to see a familiar street as it was 450 years ago, and especially so for me because Wyngeard's supposed vantage point is virtually on the roof of my flat.

The panorama can be obtained for £35 (post free to Times readers) from LTS, c/o 230 Bishopsgate Institute, EC2M 4QH.

ALSO for cartophiles is a seminar at the London Transport Museum on April 26, on the theme of the current



BIBLIOMANE

exhibition, "The Joy of Maps" — Oh my America, my new-found-land. For information, call 0171 379 6344. Or you may like to splash out on Richard Horwood's *Plan of the City of London and Westminster, the Borough of Southwark and Parts Adjoining, showing every house (1800)*, a 26in to the mile map of Georgian London, to be sold at Sotheby's on Friday (est. £3,000-4,000).

THE dormant historical research collection of the old Ministry of Works, strong in the fields of architecture and archaeology, has been transferred to English Heritage in Savile Row, where it is being recatalogued. It joins Sir Mayson Beeson's reference collection of books and his three to four thousand prints of the architecture and social life of London.

THE history of the book has been intensely studied and documented. Yet new areas of research continue to emerge. *Bookcloth 1823-1880* by William Tomlinson and Richard Masters is virtually the first word on the binding material that superseded leather and was itself superseded by toughened papers. Clearly written and with 36 "feeler" samples, it is largely a company history of Winterbottom's, which established something like a world monopoly, supplying 50 countries from Salford.

The story parallels the rise and fall of the Monotype Corporation, which supplied the world with hot-metal typesetting machinery. But the earliest history of binding in cloth is still unclear. Can the maroon-and-black horizontally striped cloth on my copy of Coleridge's *Table Talk* (1835) really be the publisher's original binding? Did Murray's want it to look like a Liquorice Allsort?

*Bookcloth* is available from PO Box 17, Maple, Stockport, SK6 5PD. Informative though it is, an edition of 1,500 copies at £35 looks optimistic to me. The Incline Press's volume of essays *In Praise of Patterned Papers* is perhaps more realistic, with 260 copies, beginning at £98 (11a Printer Street, Oldham, OL1 1PN).

JIM MCCUE

# Suffer with success

Derwent May

HOW PROUST CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

By Alain de Botton  
Pindar, £12.99  
ISBN 0 330 34762 4

"Just tell me in two lines what you wanted to say." But de Botton suggests that Proust's sentences can teach us how to go slow, look properly at things, enlarge our sympathies, even find a tragic or comic novel in a short newspaper item. When Harold Nicolson met Proust in the Paris Ritz in 1919, and talked to him about the peace conference, the novelist cried: "N'allez pas si vite" — and personally showed Nicolson how to tell his story more vividly.

Again, in his chapter "How To Suffer Successfully", de Botton suggests that if Swann, Proust's man-about-town, had been able to listen to his creator when he was experiencing hideous pangs of jealousy over his mistress Odette, he would have learnt how to turn jealousy into understanding. We — declares de Botton

— can learn from Swann's failure.

Of course, de Botton has an ulterior motive in presenting Proust in this light-headed way as a sort of Agony Aunt. This is a cunning means of getting his readers to feel at ease with what so often seems a daunting novel. And by the end of the book many aspects of *In Search of Lost Time* have been finely illuminated.

If I have one reservation about his achievement, it is that he himself can be a little long-winded and sententious — especially in his offputting introductory chapter. As he is cheeky enough to say that his girlfriend Kate looks just like Marcel's girlfriend Albertine, and to include a photograph of her in the book, perhaps I can say that here and there he reminds me of Proust's didactic diplomat, M. de Norpois. There is an occasional 19th-century *bien pensant* flavour to his style of precisely the kind Proust satirised.

One other reservation strikes me. If we all learned from Proust how to avoid all the tragicomic errors his characters fall into, the next Proust would have nothing to write about at all.



Marcel (right) with brother Robert: an unlikely therapist

# The sea yields up its secrets

Michael Arditti

THE RAVEN

By Peter Landeman  
Flamingo, £12.99  
ISBN 0 00 225 551 0

EVER since Melville's assault on the great white whale (and with it the great American novel), the sea off the New England coast has proved as fruitful to writers as to fishermen. The latest to launch into it is Peter Landeman, whose immensely accomplished first novel offers a fictional account of a real-life disaster, the sinking of the pleasure boat, *The Raven*, in 1941.

To muddy the waters still further, of the 36 people on board, only the bodies of the captain (naked and strapped to a keg) and the 14 women were discovered, leading to wild rumours that the men had been captured and enslaved by the Germans. Out of the bare bones — and disfigured corpses — of this story, Landeman has fashioned a fascinating fiction, which is part historical mystery, in which various figures, including a young fisherman and a sensation-seeking journalist, investigate the disaster, part a psychological study in survivor guilt, and part an exploration of disappearing values in a changing world.

Narrative is skilfully handled across four decades as the tragedy takes its long-term toll and the sea gradually yields its secrets. For all the brilliance of its individual characters, the novel is essentially a social portrait, concerned with the survival of a community under threat not only from nature (the sea and floods) but also from modern industrial methods (the takeover of the town's mill), commercial malpractice, and the ethos of the new "Theme Park" age.

This is a magnificent debut. Landeman is the equal of E. Annie Proulx in his handling of the fishermen's hard lives and tatty dialogue. The Raven displays the allegorical power of the best sea stories wedded to the thematic richness and psychological depth of the finest fiction.

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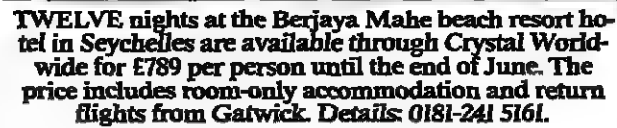
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## Rhyl is given a rough ride

By HARVEY ELLIOTT

THE Welsh seaside town of Rhyl is still smirking from the savaging it received from a respected tourist guide book.

"Anything you can do in Rhyl you can do better elsewhere," says the *Rough Guide to Wales*, which was published last week. There is, writes the guide book popular with younger tourists, "almost no reason to stay in this decaying Edwardian resort completely disfigured by amusement arcades". Despite European Union funding, the town "falls on the most basic of requirements".

But 1.5 million holidaymakers still chose to spend their main holidays in the North Wales town last summer and there were twice as many day trippers.

Jill Mariner, secretary of the Rhyl Hotels and Guest Houses Association, is scathing about the book's comments: "People have been coming here for generations after generations so we must be doing something right," she says. And the town's mayor, Ann Jones, has offered to show Paul Whitfield, the writer of the *Rough Guide* report, around the resort. "I'm confident he would change his mind once he saw all the attractions," she says. "Over the Easter weekend it was packed out here. It's a children's paradise."

The big wheel and the rollercoaster ride of the funfair dominate Fordy harbour while rising above everything is the 240ft-high Skytower, bought second-hand from Glasgow, with its revolving observation platform. Bed and breakfast in a guesthouse costs an average of £15. Millions of pounds, including European cash, have been spent redeveloping the resort's seafront. The Sun Centre with Europe's first indoor surfing pool, is one of Wales's top visitor attractions.

It may not be enough to satisfy the *Rough Guide*, but for millions Rhyl is the perfect holiday resort.



Even during a pause in hostilities, Sarajevo basked in the sun. However, a huge number of buildings were destroyed or damaged

## Fresh start for Sarajevo

The Pope is visiting Bosnia-Herzegovina's capital. Chris Lockwood reports on the war-torn city's rapid improvement

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA this weekend will take its most positive and public step yet to emerge from years of war and destruction when the Pope pays his first official visit to the battered capital, Sarajevo.

His visit, together with the reopening of vital air services, is a significant move in the country's attempt to resume its place as the Balkans' natural centre for tourism and business.

On Monday Austrian Airlines became the first West European carrier since the end of the conflict to serve the city with the first of its three-weekly services from Vienna. The airline has optimistic plans to increase the number of flights to four and eventually six a week by the end of the year.

Before the war, Sarajevo's population was about 500,000. But during the fighting, thousands fled and many were killed. A huge number of buildings were destroyed or severely damaged and there was, subsequently, an enormous loss in industrial production. Energy-supply com-

panies were smashed and health facilities, schools, bridges and railway lines were also wrecked.

The total financial damage throughout Bosnia runs into is estimated at about \$80 billion. In certain areas, people went without heat, water or outside food sources for two years. But despite the horror, the city is returning to normal, more rapidly than expected.

Four months ago, there were no glass windows in the city. But today the glass is back. The restaurants are full. Benetton has opened an outlet — and so has the Islamic Republic of Iran, with a gleaming information centre. On the same city centre street there is also the new office for Austrian Airlines, transformed from burnt-out store front to shiny ticket centre in weeks.

Turkish Airlines is due to launch flights twice a week from Istanbul from April 18, and Crossair plans to start its services three times a week from Zurich on June 9. British Airways, which recently resumed regular scheduled services to Zagreb, says that it is monitoring the growth of travel to the whole area before deciding whether to fly direct to Sarajevo from London.

"It is certainly a long road back for Sarajevo," says Herbert Felber, area manager of Central Europe for Austrian Airlines. "But out of chaos must come opportunity, and although today there are hardly any international companies represented here, at least 500 are interested and want to help in the recovery of the region."

There is no civilian control tower

or radar at the airport, which is controlled by French soldiers of the United Nations Stabilisation Force (SFOR) with air space controlled by the American military.

The only radar is military, and that only monitors flights, rather than controlling them. It is, the authorities say, safe as long as the frequently changing weather does not present a cloud base of less than 4,000ft.

Tourists, desperately needed by the city and the country, are trickling back. And business travellers are flying in to take advantage of a range of opportunities for, quite simply, the country still needs everything. But only two hotels up to Western standards — the 382-room Holiday Inn and the 85-room Bosnia Hotel — are currently available in the city.

German marks, Bosnian dinars and Croatian kuna are accepted currency, but credit cards are not. As the recovery gathers pace, the writing of the past remains on the walls of Sarajevo. On the main street, Marshal Tito Boulevard, someone has written in English: "Paradise Lost."



## Private jets take on the airlines

You have to admire the way that professional business travellers, and the companies who employ them, are able to overcome the seemingly insurmountable difficulties that can appear suddenly in their path.

Take, for example, the problems of travelling in the former Soviet Union. The unreliability and hazards of local scheduled airlines are enough to put anybody off.

Yet many businessmen have found a way of bypassing the obstacles to trading and have also produced a bonanza for Western planemakers by using private aircraft, either owned or hired.

The opportunities for Western businesses in rapidly developing countries such as Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan are growing daily, with joint ventures in oil, gas, minerals and even retailing waiting to be snapped up.

But for a senior executive or client in these countries can involve at least a week to fly to Moscow, on a scheduled airline and then wait for a domestic flight. And even a new £140 million IBM computer reservations system, installed to handle the 50 million passengers who will this year fly within the Confederation of Independent States, may not be able to solve all the problems.

According to Hunt and Palmer, Europe's second biggest business aircraft charter broker, not only is chartering an aircraft quicker and more efficient, but the savings can be enormous. A trip from London via several destinations in Russia and back, for example, could take at least six days if normal scheduled services were used, compared with only four days using a corporate jet. And with contracts of

ten worth tens of millions of pounds at stake, the £35,000 it would cost to hire a private aircraft can prove comparatively little.

Scheduled carriers are watching the development anxiously. They cannot, for example, schedule flights to Baku or Tashkent from London for only half a dozen business travellers, each of whom may want to use it no more than once or twice a year. But the small corporate broker, able to supply an aircraft at short notice, has no such problem. And that is why the corporate charter market around London alone is now worth about £100 million a year and is expected to increase to nearly £500 million in the next five years.

Europe's business aviation fleet grew by 10 per cent last year to 2,051 aircraft, and throughout the world makers of both jets and turbo-propellers report soaring sales figures.

Boeing has decided to increase production of a new business jet based on the popular 737 from two to six a month even before the first has been built, and more than 40 will be delivered within the first two years.

One British company is even converting a Boeing 747 into the world's most luxurious executive airliner, capable of carrying a maximum of 67 passengers on prestige business trips to corporate events.

By using smaller regional airports, the corporate traveller can now avoid congested hubs, be free to fly when he decides rather than stick to the airline timetable, and almost invariably beat a rival to vital meetings.

Business and corporate jets are no longer the preserve of the rich. They may prove to be the catalyst for the biggest change in flying habits in decades.

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CHANGING TIMES

## Anniversary of Kamikaze flight

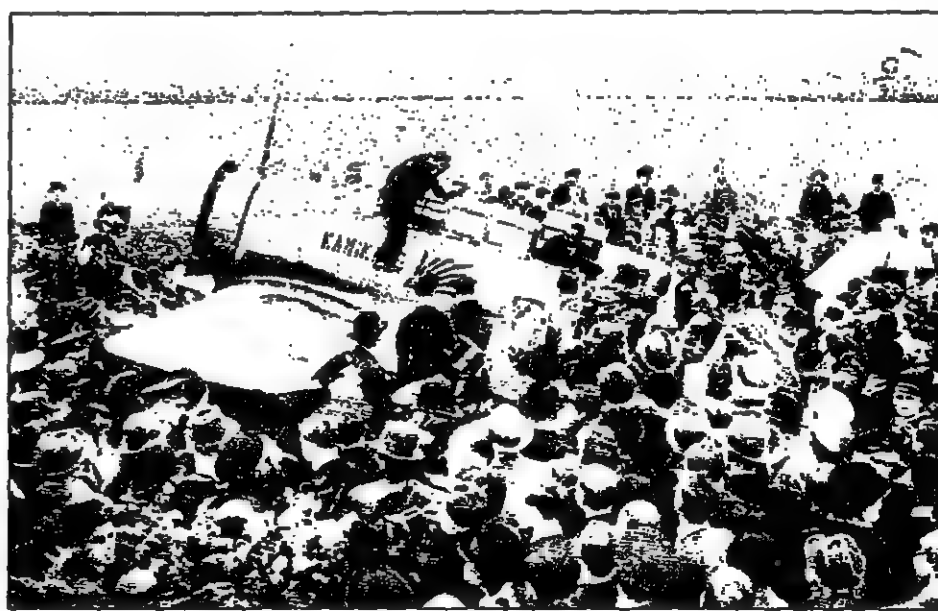
MORE than 400 Japanese gathered in London last night, Harvey Elliott writes, to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of a record-breaking flight from Tokyo to Croydon by an aircraft known as *Divine Wind*, or *Kamikaze*.

The all-metal aircraft built by Mitsubishi had been named *Kamikaze* shortly before it took off on the 94-hour journey to London. It was aiming both to break the 100-hour barrier and to celebrate the coronation of King George VI which was due to take place the following month.

More than 4,000 people watched the arrival of *Kamikaze* when it landed at Croydon on April 9, 1937, and *The Times* covered in detail what was then regarded as one of the most important aviation events.

"As the airmen struggled to the ground from *Divine Wind*, they were greeted with cheers and cries of 'Banzai' ('live forever'), were decked with garlands of flowers and were submitted to an ordeal of handshaking and congratulation," we reported.

A message was sent from the *Asahi Shimbun*, the Japanese newspaper which sponsored the flight to "The British nation" through the pages of



The Times pictures the arrival of *Kamikaze* in Croydon from Tokyo on April 9, 1937

*The Times*, which was published on Saturday, April 10, 1937.

The flight, it said, would help to create "an atmosphere of peace and cordiality in the midst of the storms and thunder which rage over international relations today and threaten the world peace of tomorrow."

The pilot, Masaki Iinuma, and the mechanic, Kenji Tsukagoshi, spent 50 hours in the air during the journey time of 94 hours and 18 minutes and managed to snatch only ten hours' sleep.

Mr Tsukagoshi had a British mother whom he had hoped to find waiting for him at Croydon. Lionel Harvey, the author who is researching a book about the epic journey,

says that unfortunately it is not recorded whether she arrived at the airport to greet her son or not.

Both men, however, were killed during the war and the aircraft was destroyed during an emergency landing off Taiwan.

A non-stop flight in a Boeing 747-400 today takes 13 hours 30 minutes.

## Simulator is too scary for public

THE world's most sophisticated cabin crew training simulator has been put out of bounds to all but airline professionals — because it is too realistic, Harvey Elliott writes.

Each of the 1,300 cabin crew employed by Emirates in Dubai has to spend up to five hours each year in the \$9 million (£5.6 million) simulator, the only one of its kind in the world.

But many emerge from the training session in a state of shock at the realism of learning how to deal with an aircraft emergency.

Now they have been ordered to practice serving meals, emergency evacuation techniques and other in-flight skills only on staff rather than on the public.

"If real passengers experienced the kind of terror we subject our crew to they may never fly again," a senior Emirates trainer said.

The simulator, made in Canada, imitates a range of problems which might be encountered by cabin crew. These can include a fire, cabin decompression, emergency landing on water, or even a crash. Each is accompanied by realistic sounds of passengers screaming as the "aircraft" fills with smoke or lurches in response to the computer messages input from a tutor outside the cabin.

The success of the Emergency Evacuation Simulator has been so great that other airlines are queuing to use spare time on it.

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# Defect caused insured damage

**Promet Engineering (Singapore) PTE Ltd v Sturge and Others (The Nukila)**

Before Lord Justice Hobhouse, President, Lord Justice Mummery and Lord Justice Ward

[Judgment March 26]  
When deciding whether insurers were liable under a hull and machinery policy incorporating clauses which extended ordinary marine cover so as to include risks which would not otherwise be covered, the questions to be asked were whether there was a latent defect in the hull and if so what constituted that defect; and whether the defect caused damage to the hull.

If the answer to the second question was that there was actual damage over and above a latent defect, the insurers were liable. The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by Promet Engineering (Singapore) PTE Ltd, the plaintiffs, from the dismissal by Mr Justice Tuckey (1996) 1 Lloyd's Rep 85 of their primary claim for breach of contract against Nicholas Colwyn Sturge sued as representative underwriter.

The insurance under a hull and

machinery policy incorporated insurable time clauses which would not otherwise be covered and Institute Additional Perils Clauses - Hulls. The policy was issued to the plaintiffs by the defendant insurer, The Nukila, in 1987. It covered the plaintiffs' accommodation platform Nukila at the relevant time.

The underwriters had refused to indemnify the plaintiffs in respect of loss incurred in repairing the platform.

Mr Stephen Ruddle for the appellants, Mr David Milson and Mr Nigel Eaton for the respondents.

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE said that the Nukila had been in service in the Java Sea since 1983. To stop the legs sinking into the seabed they ended in a welded-on steel box called a spudcan.

It was not disputed that the circumferential welds were not properly profiled. As a result fatigue cracking occurred which, when discovered on a routine inspection in 1987, was so serious that the platform had to be towed back to Singapore for extensive repair to the legs.

The plaintiffs claimed for the

cost of repairs to the platform, towing charges and other expenses. It was agreed that their insurance policies covered them for the relevant period.

However, the defendants denied liability, contending that there was no consequential damage. All that had occurred was that the latent defect of poorly profiled welding in the cracks discovered itself in the cracks occurred to the hull within the policy clauses.

The cases relied on by the defendants to support their submission that the cracks were merely latent defects made patent did not alter the position. That in each situation the question remained essentially one of fact: see *Oceanic Steamship Company v Faber* (1906) 11 Com Cas 179; (1907) 13 Com Cas 28; CA; *Hutchins v Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation* (1911) 2 KB 398; and *Schindler Steamships (London) Ltd v The London Assurance Co Ltd* (1937) 1 KB 639.

Here, on the facts, there was a latent defect in the welds; that gave rise to fatigue cracks, initially in the leg tube surface but which later became so extensive that the platform became unsafe.

It would be an abuse of language to describe the legs and spudcans as merely defective; on any ordinary use of language they were damaged by being subjected to stresses which they were unable to resist due to the latent defects in the welding.

That was damage to the subject matter insured, that is, the hull of the Nukila, nor did the decision in the *Schindler* case require a different conclusion.

The questions to be asked were: 1 Was there damage to the subject matter insured? 2 Did that damage occur during the period covered by the policy? 3 Was that damage caused by a latent defect in the machinery or hull of the vessel?

As in the present case the answer to each of these questions was in the affirmative it followed that the insured were entitled to recover an indemnity from the underwriters and accordingly the appeal on the plaintiffs' primary claim would be allowed.

LORD JUSTICE WARD gave a concurring judgment and Sir Stephen Brown agreed.

Solicitors: Norton Rose, Clyde & Co.

# Contractor cannot escape liability

**Barking and Dagenham London Borough Council v Stamford Asphalt Co Ltd and Another**

Before Lord Justice McCowan, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Auld

[Judgment February 20]

A term in a JCT building contract requiring an employer to insure against the risk of fire could not be relied on by a contractor to escape liability for a fire caused by his own negligence.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by the defendant contractor, Stamford Asphalt Co Ltd, and the third party, the defendant insurer, General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation plc, against the decision of Mr Recorder Jonathan Parker, QC, sitting on official referees' business on July 24, 1995, on a preliminary issue in an action for damages by the plaintiff employer, Barking and Dagenham London Borough Council.

Mr Guy Anthony for the defendant, Mr Jeremy Stuart-Smith for the third party, Mr Paul Darling for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE AULD said that the contractor had instructed the contractor to do certain building work in accordance with the JCT standard form of agreement for minor building works (October 1988).

In the course of the work there had been a fire. It had been

assumed for the purpose of determination of the preliminary issue that the contractor's subcontractor had negligently caused the fire and that it had caused direct and consequential loss to the employer by damaging the building and its contents, for all of which the employer had claimed damages.

Condition 6 of the agreement had made the contractor responsible for, and had required it to insure against loss caused by its default, including negligence (6.2). It had then provided for insurance in the joint names of the employer and the contractor against certain specified perils, including fire, to the works, the insurance to be undertaken by the employer (6.3B).

The contractor, as required by condition 6.2, had insured its liability for negligent damage to the building and its contents. The employer, in breach of condition 6.3B, had not effected the joint insurance cover of the building, contents and works required by it.

The employer had claimed against the contractor under condition 6.2 for direct and consequential loss from damage to the building and its contents. In doing so it had maintained that its failure to insure as required by condition 6.3B, although a breach of contract, had had nothing to do with the contractor's liability under condition 6.2.

The contractor had maintained, by way of set-off and counterclaim, supported by its condition 6.2

insurer, that the employer's failure to insure had caused it a substantial loss corresponding to the damage to the building, contents and works for which condition 6.3B would have provided cover. It argued that the failure had deprived it of the protection that such insurance would have provided against much of the employer's claim against it under condition 6.2.

In *National Trust v Haden Young Ltd* (1994) 72 BLR 11 Lord Justice Nourse had considered that there was a potential for overlap damage to the building and/or its contents from any of the specified perils in condition 6.3B for which the contractor might be liable under condition 6.2.

However, in his Lordship's judgment, conditions 6.2 and 6.3B were concerned with entirely different types of damage. Condition 6.2 governed liability for damage culpably caused by the contractor. Condition 6.3B required insurance for certain damage not culpably caused by it.

Condition 6.2 imposed an unqualified liability on the contractor. Condition 6.3B contained no words indicating that the employer had to insure against the specified perils in such a way as to suggest that they included those caused by the contractor's negligence.

It followed that if the employer had effected a condition 6.3B insurance it could properly, and consistently with condition 6.2

have excluded from cover any loss or damage caused by the contractor's negligence.

Most of the specified perils for which insurance was required under condition 6.3B, for example, lightning, explosion, storm, earthquake and riot, were of a type resulting from natural phenomena, so-called "acts of God", or were not normally the responsibility of either contracting party. That was how "fire" should be interpreted in that context.

If the condition 6.3B insurance were required to cover loss or damage caused by the specified perils, including fire, then the contractor was liable, there would be unnecessary expense and duplication of insurance cover because the contractor was already bound to insure against it in respect of the building and contents under condition 6.2. In that instance both parties would be providing the same cover. That could not have been intended by the draftsman.

More generally, it could not sensibly have been the intention of the draftsman, or of the parties when entering into the agreement, that the employer's condition 6.3B insurance would ensure for the benefit of the contractor so as to enable him to escape liability for his own negligence imposed by condition 6.2, and at common law.

LORD JUSTICE MCCOWAN and LORD JUSTICE MILLETT agreed.

Solicitors: Shindler & Co. Barryman; Vizards.

# Jail warning for city fraudsters

**Regina v Ward, Regina v Howard, Regina v Hendry, Attorney-General's Reference (Nos 14, 15 and 16 of 1995)**

Before Lord Justice McCowan, Mr Justice Hovind and Mr Justice Hooper

[Judgment March 21]  
Those who took part in conspiracy to defraud involving the creation of false share markets to influence the fate of takeover should know that if caught they would highly likely go to prison.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so stated on a reference by the Attorney-General under section 36 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988. It held that concurrent community service orders of 240 hours imposed on Michael Grainger Ward and Jeremy John Alan Howard and a conditional discharge for 12 months imposed on George Hendry were unduly lenient and substituted, respectively, two years imprisonment, 30 months and 12 months suspended

for two years. The sentences were imposed in March 1995 at Southwark Crown Court by Judge Mota Singh on conviction of Ward and Howard and a plea of guilty by Hendry to conspiracy to defraud. Ward and Howard were also convicted of three and four counts of theft respectively. Ward was also ordered to pay a total of £53,087.50 compensation within two years with 12 months imprisonment in default and Howard was ordered to pay £151,042.26 compensation within two years with 12 months imprisonment in default and each was ordered to pay £2,000 towards the costs of the prosecution.

Mr Orlando Fowell and Mr Ian Galt for the Attorney-General; Mr Andrew Trollope, QC and Mr Andrew Mitchell for Ward; Mr Roy Amlot, QC and Mr Michael Greve for Howard; Mr Ian Winter for Hendry.

LORD JUSTICE MCCOWAN, giving the judgment of the court, said that much of the delay in hearing the applications resulted from the fact that two of the

offenders had chosen, as was their right, to appeal against conviction. Their Lordships had in each case taken into account previous good character, good performance since the trial and the effect on the families but had no hesitation in concluding that community service orders were inappropriate and too lenient.

Creating false share markets to influence the fate of takeover was a very serious matter. Not only could it lead to a fraud on shareholders but it could cause considerable damage to the City of London which was very important to the whole of the country.

An important element in sentencing in such cases had to be the deterrent element. Those who took part should know that if caught they would be highly likely to go to prison and that payment of compensation orders would not save them.

The appropriate sentence for Ward would have been three years and for Howard 30 months imprisonment with a discount for the element of double jeopardy the

proper sentences were two years and 15 months imprisonment respectively, and disqualification for holding a directorship of a public company for seven and five years respectively.

Hendry's case was significantly different. He did not play a main role and he pleaded guilty so that the right sentence would have been 15 months imprisonment. He was already suffering ill-health in the form of Parkinson's disease, diabetes, coronary artery disease and depression and was very much worse off after the considerable delay, so that in those exceptional circumstances the court could impose a sentence of 12 months imprisonment and suspend for two years.

He was also given credit for having established a small business on which he and his family were dependent. Their Lordships in their mercy and discretion would not disqualify him.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters; Memory Crystal; Simons Muirhead & Burton; Barton Copeland.

# Tax penalty notices within jurisdiction

**Phillips v Income Tax General Commissioners for New Forest West and Another**

The imposition by general commissioners of two penalties of £4,000 each on a taxpayer for her continued failure to comply with a notice requiring her to provide them with information within the commissioners' jurisdiction and would not be interfered with by Mr Justice Lightman so held in

the Chancery Division on March 10 dismissing an appeal by Georgina Phillips against the imposition of the penalties by the New Forest West general commissioners on July 10 and November 17, 1995.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the taxpayer had settled with the Revenue an investigation into her tax affairs, making payment of £29,000.

The commissioners had issued the notice under regulation 10 of the General Commissioners (Jurisdiction and Procedure) Regulations (SI 1994 No 1811) requiring her to identify the source of the £29,000.

She had failed at all times to give her accountants instructions to comply with the notice and in her notice of appeal stated that she had been unable to provide certain

information but was still trying to do so.

It was clear that there was a failure by the taxpayer to provide information.

The commissioners had jurisdiction to make the orders: they had found serious default by the taxpayer that justified their decision and her appeal against the imposition of the penalties had to be dismissed.

Mr David Ivi for AIB Finance Ltd; Mr Peter Leighton for respon-

dent debtors.

MR JUSTICE CARNWATH said that the respondents were registered proprietors of a shop which they ran as a post office, newsagent and off-licence.

In 1988 they entered into a mortgage with the bank, AIB Finance Ltd, charging both the premises and the business goodwill as security for a loan of £160,000 and interest thereon.

The respondents fell into arrears, and in September 1988 the bank obtained an order for possession and judgment for arrears, amounting to £222,806.

The bank took possession of the premises in December 1988, and having received £32,290 from the sale of another property of the respondents secured statutory demands on February 22, 1989, for the balance then owing of £143,951.

On March 27, the respondents applied to have the statutory demands set aside, on the ground that the premises and the business ought to have been sold together as a going concern, worth about £182,000.

However, a sale of the premises alone was completed in April 1990 for £43,500, although the bank's own adviser had, in 1994, valued the premises and business at £130,000. That fact raised at least a prima facie case that the bank had failed short of the duties it owed to the respondent borrowers.

On September 6 a district judge

proceedings *nunc pro tunc* for damages in respect of the alleged negligence and breach of contract and breach of trust of the defendant solicitor, Stuart Samuel Melnick, a bankrupt.

Miss Martha Maher for the applicant; Mr William Flanley for the respondent.

HIS LORDSHIP said that in exercising the wide discretion conferred by section 28(3) of the 1986 Act, he had found the principles set out in *In re Coastal Construction Pty Ltd* (1990) 13 ACSC 239 of considerable assistance. Those were:

1 That an application for leave could be given if good cause was shown on the merits, the test being whether there was a serious question to be tried, although in that respect his Lordship agreed with the contrasting approach of Mr Justice Jonathan Parker in *In re Bank of Credit & Commerce International SA (No 4)* [1994] 1 BCLC 419, that it was not nec-

essary for the court to investigate the merits of the proposed claim, provided it was satisfied that it was not clearly unsustainable.

2 That there must be no prejudice to the creditors or to the orderly administration of the bankruptcy if the action was to proceed.

3 That the claim must be of a type which should proceed by action rather than through the proofing procedure in bankruptcy.

4 That leave was more likely to be granted where the defendant was insured, since any judgment debt obtained by the plaintiff would be paid by the insurers, and therefore it was unlikely that the creditors would be prejudiced. The section was not designed to protect an insurer.

5 A condition was often imposed that the plaintiff would not enforce any judgment against the respondent without the leave of the court, which ensured that the bankruptcy court would retain ultimate control.

6 Mere delay itself in applying for

leave would not prevent leave being granted. Leave was not to be withheld simply and solely as a punishment.

7 Leave could be granted after the expiry of the relevant period of limitation to continue an action commenced within the limitation period without the leave of the court.

Since the plaintiff clearly had a sustainable case, which could not appropriately be decided by way of proof in the bankruptcy proceedings, his Lordship granted leave to pursue the claim against the respondent on the condition that any order against the respondent would only be enforced with leave of the bankruptcy court.

Solicitors: Eversheds, Bristol; Pinsent Curtis.

**Correction**

In *In re Amadeus Trading Ltd* (The Times April 1) the solicitors for Amadeus were Paul Joseph & Co.

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**TERMS AND CONDITIONS 1.** This offer is only open to residents of the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland. 2. Readers can order a minimum of one complimentary *How Your Exams are Marked* pack per household by sending four differently numbered tokens and £1.98 for p&h. 3. No tokens are required for half-price packs, but readers must order a minimum of two half-price packs with each coupon. 4. Cheques must be made payable to Fast Forward. 5. No photocopies of tokens will be accepted. 6. Please allow 15 working days for delivery. 7. This offer closes on Friday May 23, 1997.

CHANGING TIMES

# Granting leave to proceed out of time

**In re Melnick (a Bankrupt)**

Before Mr David Young, QC

[Judgment March 26]

In considering whether to exercise its discretion under section 28(3) of the Insolvency Act 1986 to grant an applicant leave out of time to commence proceedings against a bankrupt, the court should have a free hand to do what was right and fair according to the circumstances of the case.

In deciding that the court should have regard, inter alia, to whether the claim could only be resolved by court proceedings or would more appropriately be decided by way of proof in the bankruptcy proceedings, and to whether the claim was clearly unsustainable, leave was more likely to be granted where the defendant was insured.

Mr David Young QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division, so held in a reserved judgment, granting the plaintiff's application for leave to commence

proceedings *nunc pro tunc* for damages in respect of the alleged negligence and breach of contract and breach of trust of the defendant solicitor, Stuart Samuel Melnick, a bankrupt.

Miss Martha Maher for the applicant; Mr William Flanley for the respondent.

HIS LORDSHIP said that in exercising the wide discretion conferred by section 28(3) of the 1986 Act, he had found the principles set out in *In re Coastal Construction Pty Ltd* (1990) 13 ACSC 239 of considerable assistance. Those were:

1 That an application for leave could be given if good cause was shown on the merits, the test being whether there was a serious question to be tried, although in that respect his Lordship agreed with the contrasting approach of Mr Justice Jonathan Parker in *In re Bank of Credit & Commerce International SA (No 4)* [1994] 1 BCLC 419, that it was not nec-

essary for the court to investigate the merits of the proposed claim, provided it was satisfied that it was not clearly unsustainable.

2 That there must be no prejudice to the creditors or to the orderly administration of the bankruptcy if the action was to proceed.

3 That the claim must be of a type which should proceed by action rather than through the proofing procedure in bankruptcy.

4 That leave was more likely to be granted where the defendant was insured, since any judgment debt obtained by the plaintiff would be paid by the insurers, and therefore it was unlikely that the creditors would be prejudiced. The section was not designed to protect an insurer.

5 A condition was often imposed that the plaintiff would not enforce any judgment against the respondent without the leave of the court, which ensured that the bankruptcy court would retain ultimate control.

6 Mere delay itself in applying for

leave would not prevent leave being granted. Leave was not to be withheld simply and solely as a punishment.

7 Leave could be granted after the expiry of the relevant period of limitation to continue an action commenced within the limitation period without the leave of the court.

Since the plaintiff clearly had a sustainable case, which could not appropriately be decided by way of proof in the bankruptcy proceedings, his Lordship granted leave to pursue the claim against the respondent on the condition that any order against the respondent would only be enforced with leave of the bankruptcy court.

Solicitors: Eversheds, Bristol; Pinsent Curtis.

**Correction**

In *In re Amadeus Trading Ltd* (The Times April 1) the solicitors for Amadeus were Paul Joseph & Co.

# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

## LEGAL NOTICES

**In the Matter of Philip Robinson**  
I, Philip Robinson, of 10, The Quadrant, London, do hereby give notice that I am a member of the company known as Philip Robinson & Co. (Limited) and that I am entitled to the shares of the company known as Philip Robinson & Co. (Limited) which are now being offered for sale by the company known as Philip Robinson & Co. (Limited) and that I am entitled to the shares of the company known as Philip Robinson & Co. (Limited) which are now being offered for sale by the company known as Philip Robinson & Co. (Limited) and that I am entitled to the shares of the company known as Philip Robinson & Co. (Limited) which are now being offered for sale by the company known as Philip Robinson & Co. (Limited) and that I am entitled to the shares of the company known as Philip Robinson & Co. (Limited) which are now







# Newest sporting bible salutes King James's version

The week before a marathon is always tough. If you are planning to run one it is, alas, too late to get in that last-minute training. Perhaps the best thing you can do is put your feet up, boil up some tea and read a good, long, well-researched book about sport.

They don't come any better researched, or any longer, than the *Encyclopaedia of World Sport*, from *Ancient Times to the Present*, just published in Britain in three volumes.

It is certainly this week's entry for the book most likely to take your mind off the Flora London Marathon. It might even suggest a few events that are a lot less painful and demanding.

This encyclopaedia reckons it is the most comprehensive, historical and cross-cultural survey of sport

published. It is an impressive and heavyweight work, compiled with the help of a vast team of sports scholars and experts from all over the world.

It gives fascinatingly detailed coverage of almost 300 sports, which include all the mainstream and traditional activities and some that you will probably never have heard of.

## 'Cudgeling, Buzkashi and Maori Darts'

And if you do not fancy any of those, then you are probably a natural for the "Good Woman Contest", a traditional Native American trial of speed and skill.

Modestly, for a book that gives such in-depth information on so many sports, the *Encyclopaedia of*

*World Sports* accords the honour of "the most influential sports book ever written" to a simple nine-page booklet issued in 1618.

That was when King James I published *The King's Book of Sports* that declared that it would be legal to play certain games and sports on a Sunday after church. The king's declaration was read aloud in every church in the land (later it was ordered by Parliament to be publicly burned), and it sparked a fierce debate that raged for more than three centuries about whether sport should be allowed on a Sunday.

This weekend we will see sport from the FA Cup semi-finals to the London Marathon dominating our Sunday, so maybe *The King's Book of Sports* really did start sports' greatest revolution.

Priced at £125, for the three volumes, the *Encyclopaedia of World Sport*, edited by David Levinson and Karen Christensen and published in Britain by ABC-



CLIO, Oxford, is not going to knock *Fewer Pitch* off the bestseller list, but it is a vast source of information on almost any sporting topic you could wish to explore. Take the shadow of the Irish question in sport, which at the weekend led to the IRA bid to wreck the Grand National. Dive into volume II and you find the issue has been around for a long time. At the 1908 Olympics in London,

there was much tension between Britain and the United States over Irish nationalism because there were hardly any Irishmen in the "Great Britain and Ireland" team, while the United States squad was full of them.

Matters came to a head in the marathon where the leader, Dorando Pietri, collapsed and was helped across the finish line. The race was awarded to the second finisher, John Hayes, an Irish-American. This was not a popular result with the London crowd and special prizes were awarded to Pietri, who became far more famous than his conqueror.

This latest encyclopaedia comes out of America and places great emphasis on political correctness. Its editors reckon that the traditional view of sport is far too Western and masculine, so here, along with all the mainstream sports, there are entries on Animal Rights and Ethnicity. Right after the entry on Gambling, comes a

chapter on Gay Games. Women's Sport and Worker Sport are well documented. You can roam through richly researched sections on Native American Competitions and Traditional Sports from Oceania. Where else could you learn of an Australian aboriginal version of football in which the ball is traditionally made out of the scrotum of a kangaroo?

And anyone who thinks that the roots of modern-day competitive sport lay exclusively in Ancient Greece, is firmly put in his or her place by scholarly sections on the history and traditions of Native American and Native American sport. Native people in the northern parts of North America, reports the encyclopaedia, have created their own traditional competitions. Events include the one and two-foot High

Kick, the Muskox Push, the Indian Blanket Toss and the Mouth Pull. These events were originally only done by males, although in these gender-balanced times, female participants may also compete.

Female participants, the editors explain, originally had their own event—the Good Woman Contest. This sport includes various activities performed by women, such as tea boiling, fire making, wood chopping, ha-

## 'Muskox Push and Indian Blanket Toss'

And, of course, in the politically correct Nineties, it is reported that these days men, too, can take part in the Good Woman Contest. Get me an entry form, please. It has to be easier than the marathon.

JOHN BRYANT

## ATHLETICS

# American turns his back on \$1m windfall

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

JERRY LAWSON wears nine earrings and studs, a ponytail, a goatee beard and, as he flew into Gatwick yesterday, he announced that he will colour his hair blond or white for the Flora London Marathon on Sunday. Yet, if he runs a quick time, this flamboyant, chatty, good-humoured, Irish-American might suddenly go very quiet.

Lawson is passing up the chance of \$1 million by declining to race in the Boston Marathon on Monday week when, even by the most generous estimate, he cannot make much more than a quarter of that in London. A million dollars to run under 2hr 30min 47sec in Boston, but only \$150,000 to run two minutes quicker in London—how?

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trying to season myself before I take on a course and competition like that."

London tends to be more evenly paced and, for an athlete with a high drop-out rate, having completed only six of his nine marathons, Lawson's caution is understandable. "I still consider myself a baby as far as the marathon goes, so I am trying to take steps before I start hitting the ground full force," he said. He is thinking more of the millennium than the million. "I am planning by 2000 on getting down in the 20s. I am trying to make a progression, taking a minute off every year. If I run two marathons a year, that is 30 seconds a marathon, which is one second a mile, roughly."

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when Kempainen ran 2hr 30min 47sec there. Boston is a point-to-point course, which precludes official United States records on it. Lawson's 2hr 30min 47sec counts because Chicago, where he set it last year when finishing runner-up to Paul Evans, satisfies criteria relating to course profile and proximity of start to finish, thereby falling into the category of loop-route rather than point-to-point.

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jumping ship and going after the million dollars, but it was not where I want to be right now," Lawson, who has agreed to run in London before the incentive was announced, said. "I want to make each of my marathons progressively more prestigious or faster."

"After Chicago, London is logically the next step, instead of going to Boston and getting caught with everything right out of the gun, like they do there." Boston's fast early miles are precipitated by the combination of downhill start and African influence. "I do not feel I am prepared as I would like to be to handle that yet," Lawson said. "I am

trying to season myself before I take on a course and competition like that."

London tends to be more evenly paced and, for an athlete with a high drop-out rate, having completed only six of his nine marathons, Lawson's caution is understandable. "I still consider myself a baby as far as the marathon goes, so I am trying to take steps before I start hitting the ground full force," he said. He is thinking more of the millennium than the million. "I am planning by 2000 on getting down in the 20s. I am trying to make a progression, taking a minute off every year. If I run two marathons a year, that is 30 seconds a marathon, which is one second a mile, roughly."

Lawson moved from Florida to Texas recently. "The weather in Texas has been a mess, either cold or raining 75 per cent of the time I have been there, so it has been hard to train properly," he said. Born Jerry Murphy, of Irish parents, Lawson was adopted at 18 months. When he is not training or changing hair-look—he has raced in luminous green and a mohawk cut—he is collecting and reading comics. *The Flash*, the story of the fastest man alive, is his favourite and one of his ear studs is a lightning bolt, the symbol of the main character. Lawson has 2,000 comics in his collection and he has read every one. He is well stocked with second and third generation issues of *The Flash*, but not vintage collectors' copies. "The first generation stuff from the Forties is so expensive, I do not even bother," he said. The things you could do with a million dollars.

Lawson is passing up the chance of \$1 million by declining to race in the Boston Marathon on Monday week when, even by the most generous estimate, he cannot make much more than a quarter of that in London. A million dollars to run under 2hr 30min 47sec in Boston, but only \$150,000 to run two minutes quicker in London—how?

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## BOXING

# Tyson's eye injury wreaks havoc with Lewis bout

By SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

THE postponement of the fight between Evander Holyfield and Mike Tyson in Las Vegas, because of an eye injury suffered by Tyson in training, has rebounded on the plans of Lennox Lewis.

The World Boxing Council champion had hoped to defend his title against Henry Akinwande in Britain on July 5. Now the date will not only have to be changed but the bout may have to be moved to the United States.

The Lewis-Akinwande contest was all set to be staged in Britain the day before the Wimbledon men's singles final. A deal was on the point of being signed between Don King, Akinwande's promoter, and Panix, the London promotion company behind Lewis.

Panix has now had to think again about the advisability of holding the British bout so close to the American one, which has been postponed

from May 3 to June 28. Panos Eliades, the head of Panix, explained that, as he could not be certain of getting Sky viewers to subscribe to pay-per-view for two bouts only a week apart, he had not only to find a new date for the Lewis bout but also to cut down Akinwande's purse, which was a substantial one.

However, Eliades believes he can secure a new deal with King. He hopes to bring the British bout forward to June 14 but it may have to go to Atlantic City in New Jersey. Eliades says the fact that Lewis must get 75 per cent of the purse gives him a stronger hand when dealing with King.

After the Tyson-Holyfield postponement, it was all up in the air as far as Lewis's fight was concerned, Eliades said. "If I had to choose between the two fights, I know which one I would choose and it wouldn't be Lennox's fight. As a result, I have had to cut down the very good money I was giving

Akinwande [believed to be around \$4 million]. Also, June 14 could be better for us because the 14-day gap between the two fights is better than a week."

Eliades added that, because the major share of the purse money must come to Lewis, he was in a better position than King to win the right to stage the show. By entering into a private arrangement with Lewis, who is also his business partner, Eliades would pay considerably less than the 75 per cent he is entitled to. A big saving could help him trump King's move.

The sums do not add up in favour of King, who will have to pay a prohibitive \$10 million and more to secure the promotion if the bout went to pursue bids. It would be better for King to do a deal with Eliades than go to pursue offers, which would have to be made public.

Tyson needs all of the 11 weeks to get his eye into good enough shape to face the man who so humiliated him last time. The cut over the left eye had 12 stitches on March 17 when it was injured in training. Last Wednesday it started to seep during sparring and Tyson's doctor, Barry Markham, thought it best to put off the bout. "I'm in great shape at this moment and ready to fight but I am just following the instructions of the doctor," Tyson told a press conference in Las Vegas.

Holyfield, who is convinced he will beat Tyson again, said at his training camp in Houston: "I guess I will just have to wait a little longer." Holyfield's attorney, Jim Thomas, said: "He's a remarkable human being, who accepts things the way they are better than anyone I've ever known. It is not going to deter him from beating Tyson again. He will just have to do it a little later."

This is the third time a Tyson bout has had to be postponed because of his illness or injury since he came out of prison. In 1995, he called off a contest with Buster Mathis because of an injured thumb and last July bronchitis caused him to postpone a fight with Bruce Seldon.



Palmer, driven by a renewed enthusiasm, discusses strategy with his coach, Turner, during a break in training. Photograph: David Howells

## Palmer reaches the turn refreshed

Craig Lord on the change of heart that has taken a disillusioned Olympic silver medal-winner to Sheffield to seek Great Britain selection once more

Paul Palmer, Olympic silver medal-winner over 400 metres freestyle, will race in Sheffield today for a place in the Great Britain swimming team at the European championships in Seville in August.

Twelve weeks ago he nearly left the sport, doubts and disillusionment dictating an about-turn at Heathrow: instead of boarding a flight that would take him to a national team training camp in Australia and reunite him with Ian Turner, his coach, he went home to Lincoln instead.

The anguish of that moment is evident in the explanation of the 22-year-old national freestyle champion as he works through his thoughts like a down-and-out sifting through a bin. He had been skiing, he was tired, worried, the plane was delayed, he would only be in Australia eight days — excuses, excuses...

"OK, yeah," Palmer conceded. "When I saw the deal, I half-thought, oh good, I might get out of it. It was a rocky time

after the Games. I was at my lowest ever. I hadn't been working hard. I kept thinking I don't want to go out there [Australia] to face another stripping-down from Ian. I was disillusioned. There had been no improvement in my finances — Atlanta had all come to nothing in a way. I just thought 'why bother'."

A furious Turner wondered the same. He had bothered to take a six-month sabbatical from his job as a teacher to help Palmer before Atlanta and now found himself coaching seven swimmers, none his own, in Australia. "I think he hadn't perhaps got the rest, he was tired, he needed out of his system. But I was livid. When I got home, I said my piece and then walked away," Turner said.

That a change can be as good as a rest would appear to be borne out by a switch for

both swimmer and coach from the small pool at Lincoln, which Palmer protested about in Atlanta, to the new Olympic pool at the University of Bath. Turner was appointed at Bath last autumn, but the turning-point for Palmer has come in the past four weeks with the opening of the new 50-metre stainless steel pool.

Turner described his charge as being at his "most positive since July 23 [silver-medal day] — he's talking swimming again. He's excited by it."

Palmer confirmed: "Bath has worked wonders. The pool's not open to everyone at the moment and there's a real training camp feel to the place. I love it. I feel like a proper swimmer for the first time." And that means pain, the hurt of moving to a tank in which you have to swim twice as far for your arms to feel the momentary relief of the turn.

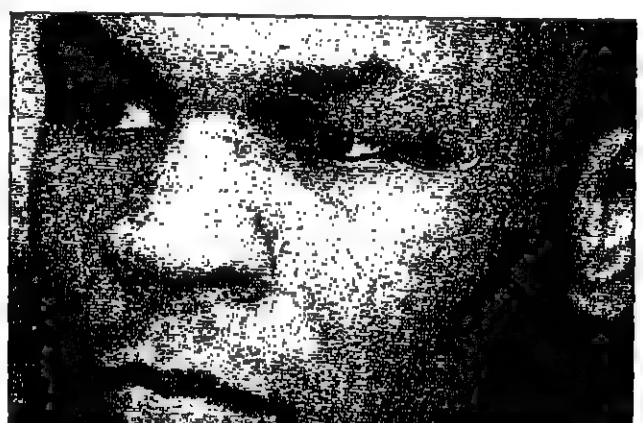
The gain should be seen in Seville, but not in Sheffield. For now, Turner will be happy with selection over the next four days of trials at Ponds Forge. What neither he nor Palmer are happy with is the programme. He must race the 200 metres freestyle, in which he was an Olympic finalist, on the same day as the 1,500 metres freestyle, an event in which Britain has three world-class men. Graeme Smith, of Stockport, winner of the bronze medal in Atlanta, leading Palmer and Ian Wilson, of Leeds.

"We all agreed that the trials should mirror the big event," Turner said. "It's ridiculous. It's scandalous. It looks as if someone on some programming committee is either incompetent or manipulative." Palmer, facing 4,200 metres of racing in three days, asked: "Wouldn't you have thought

that someone would have asked me about the programme?"

His gripe is also financial. Beyond the £2,500 a year that Palmer gets from the Sports Aid Foundation and the £400 allowance that comes in Sports Council grants and helps to pay rent, food and travel, Palmer still dreams of the kind of sponsorship that would relieve him of his worries.

He will not get it from the Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain, which has told swimmers that it cannot afford to fund them until National Lottery money flows in. The Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) has since informed English swimmers that it will fund them this month, a welcome but bewildering development given that the federation is dominated by the ASA, which dictates that the federation secretary and treasurer are the same men who run English swimming, namely David Sparkes and Alan Clarkson.



Tyson's troublesome eye injury required 12 stitches

## Starie to meet Francis

IF DAVID Starie, the Bury St Edmunds super-middleweight, still hopes to win a Lonsdale belt outright in record time, he will have to do it the hard way (Srikumar Sen writes). He will have to face his arch-rival, Dean Francis, of Basingstoke, within 90 days.

After Starie lifted the British title by stopping Sam Storey, of Belfast, on Tuesday, his manager, Frank Maloney, was hoping to match him

with Mark Delaney, of West Ham, but the British Boxing Board of Control ruled that that bout could not take place before the one with Francis.

Chris Sanigar, the manager of Francis, said: "Let's get the fight on in a month's time. My man is the best super-middleweight in Britain and what Dean Francis wants is to eliminate every super-middleweight and what's better than to start with Starie and finish with Steve Collins?"

## SAILING: GROUP 4 GETS THE BETTER OF CONCERT IN RACE TO CAPE TOWN

### Golding masters Southern Ocean

By EDWARD GORMAN, SAILING CORRESPONDENT

MIKE GOLDING and his drilled and determined team on Group 4 wanted to win every leg of the BT Global Challenge. Golding was pipped at the finish of the third third leg, but yesterday again showed his mastery of the boats and the Southern Ocean to be first into Cape Town.

Golding survived a cat-and-mouse game with Chris Tibbs's *Concert*, which had kept both crews on their toes for the past five days, and slipped across the finish in the early hours of yesterday morning. *Concert*, which was dismasted in the second leg, came in just 20 minutes later after 6,200 miles of racing, followed by Simon Walker, on *Toshiba Wave Warrior*, a further four hours back.

This has been the hardest leg of the race in terms of the punishment both crews and yachts have been subjected to since the restart in Sydney on

March 2. The south Indian Ocean served up an unrelenting series of gales and three huge storms, two of which were particularly frightening and vicious, with winds up to 70 knots and difficult and dangerous seas. Most yachts, including Golding's, suffered damage — *Pause To Remember* broke her boom — and the list of injuries to crew got ever longer.

When Golding set off from Sydney, Walker and Andy Hindley, on *Save The Children*, were virtually tied in overall second place, about 18 hours behind him. This presented Golding with the difficulty of trying to cover them both. However, Hindley was still at sea yesterday and was expected to finish sometime today, dropping him out of the overall picture with a total deficit behind Golding of around two days.

Walker, meanwhile, is now alone in second place, about 22 hours behind Golding, who can be expected to keep a very close eye on the talented young



RESULTS: 1. Group 4 31 days 07 hrs 05 min. *Concert* (James 01:30:00M, yesterday). 2. *Concert* 37 days 02 hrs 33 min. 3. *Toshiba Wave Warrior* 38 days 11 hrs 30 min. 4. *Commercial Union* 41 miles from Cape Town. 5. *Save The Children* 116.7, 300m 171.8. 6. *Global Teamwork* 172.9. 7. *Ocean Rover* 247.10. 8. *Time & Tide* 218.11. 9. *Nuclear Record* 278.12. 10. *Comrades International* 483.13. 11. *Heath Insurance* 531.14. 15. *Pause To Remember* 583.

former crew volunteer for the remainder of the race. Although there are still two long legs to come, to Boston and then Southampton, and the lottery of the doldrums, it is hard to see Golding losing his grip on proceedings. As the celebrations got underway in the shadow of Table Mountain, Alex Sizer, 21, a student from Surrey and one of Golding's hard-working crew, reflected on the arduous voyage from Australia. "It was pretty dreadful," she said, "but I'd go

back there — I really would. It was really tough, but I know I can do it. The worst part was being physically uncomfortable, being cold and wet almost all the time."

In London yesterday, Pete Goss became only the sixth recipient of the Royal Ocean Racing Club Seaman's Trophy since its donation to the club in 1981. This was in recognition of his "exceptional seamanship in taking *Aqua Quorum* to the rescue of *Raphael Dineili* in the Southern Ocean."

Presenting the trophy at a lunch at the club, Terry Robinson, its commodore, said: "It is doubtful that the club, with all its history and tradition, has had equal cause to honour a yachtsman of exceptional note." Since his spectacular finish to the Vendée Globe just over two weeks ago, Goss has been on a non-stop marathon of media interviews. However, he is already planning his next venture, which is believed to be an entry in The Race in the year 2000.

## BOWLS

## Allcock elevated by reversal of fortune

RICHARD SHERGOLD and Andy Willis, who helped their renowned Bentham club colleague, Tony Allcock, to secure the triples title yesterday, said that winning their first national indoor championship was a dream come true (David Rhys Jones writes).

To Allcock, by contrast, his third indoor triples win must have seemed like waking up at the end of a nightmare. It was, he explained, his sixth national indoor final at Melton Mowbray, but the first that he has managed to win.

Allcock is too polite to criticise the green, but it is well-known that he has had his reservations since the championships moved there in 1989.

The final yesterday between Bentham and Kingsthorpe was a classic that kept spectators on the edge of their seats until the last bowl, when Mick Sharpe's delivery, meant to remove two opposition bowls for a match-winning treble, took out his own shot to give Bentham a 19-16 victory.

Andrew Manton and Ian Walker gave Sharpe good support, but Bentham scored a four on the fourteenth end to draw level at 14-14. Kingsthorpe edged ahead again, but a treble enabled Bentham to take a two-shot lead into the last end and it was all in the balance until Sharpe's final misfortune.

Results, page 42

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Brian Senior and I missed an almost lay-down grand slam on this hand, in the critical match between Armstrong and Calderwood in the 1996-97 Premier League.

W K 10 8 5 4 3 2 A Q J 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 N A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 S A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 H A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

North was the dealer, and with no opposition bidding this was our sequence:

W E  
1 NT (1) 2 NT (2)  
3 S (3) 4 H (4)  
5 N (5) 6 S (6)  
7 H (7) Pass

(1) 20-22 points.

(2) Showing at least five hearts and a transfer bid.

(3) With a 2 NT opening with too great support for hearts I would just bid Three Hearts. So to bid something else (known as "breaking the transfer") shows heart support. The standard tournament treatment is that to bid a new suit shows a "source of tricks" — K Q J x, A Q J x or A K Q x to bid 3 NT shows a good heart fit, hoping to run the suit in 3 NT; and to bid Four Hearts shows good heart support but no particular side feature.

(4) In auctions of this type, Four Diamonds would be a "retransfer", still allowing the strong hand to play a heart contract. So any other bid is a cue-bid, and Four Hearts is used as a cue-bid in diamonds.

At the other table, after a similar start, Phil King bid 6 NT over Five Spades. That conveyed the point that he could count 12 tricks, but did not stress diamonds sufficiently.

In several other matches the hand was bid to Seven Hearts, in particular in those auctions starting with a strong One Club opening by West.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

(5, 6) Five-ace Blackwood, and a response showing two aces and the queen of hearts.

(7) At this point I knew my partner had five hearts headed by the ace-queen, and the ace of diamonds; he could not have six hearts, as that would give him a sound opening bid. I could count 12 tricks: three in spades, five in hearts, three in diamonds and one in clubs. What were the possibilities of a thirteenth? First, my partner might have the jack of spades. Second, he might have four diamonds, in which case the thirteenth trick would be a diamond ruff in the West hand.

In practice I made the lazy bid of Six Hearts over Five Spades, and there we rested. But what I should have bid was Six Diamonds. I think that would indicate that we had no diamond losers, and so Senior would have realised that his fourth diamond would give the thirteenth trick in Seven Hearts. If I had got this right we would have gained 13 IMPs, enough to win the Premier League.

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## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kramnik leads

After six rounds of the elite tournament in Dos Hermanas, Spain, the young Russian grandmaster Vladimir Kramnik has edged ahead of the field. In the sixth round he won a complicated game against Judit Polgar.

Polgar, in previous encounters, has a wretched score against Kramnik. Here she decided to head for an immediate draw by employing the notoriously harmless exchange variation against the French Defence. Having made this decision, she switched to conducting a complicated middlegame in which successive sacrifices left her behind on material for no visible compensation.

Polgar's final chance to resist came on move 43, when she should have captured Black's pawn on e5 with her own pawn. After the move chosen, her entire position promptly collapsed.

SCORERS (after six rounds): Kramnik 4½, Anand 4, Polgar and Gelfand 3½, Karjagin and Topalov 3, Shirov, Salov and Short 2½, Ivanchuk 1.

White: Judit Polgar  
Black: Vladimir Kramnik  
Dos Hermanas, April 1997  
French Defence

1 e4 e5  
2 d4 d5  
3 exd5 exd5  
4 Nf3 Nc6  
5 Bc3 Bc8  
6 O-O Nge7  
7 dxe4 dxe4  
8 Bxc4 Bxb6  
9 Bxb6 Bxb6  
10 Bxb6 Bxb6

White to move

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Ljubinski — Benurinski, USSR 1945. This position sees an interesting battle between bishops and knights. Bishops are generally stronger in an open position, but here the black knights are well centralised. How did Black now make the most of this?

Solution on page 45

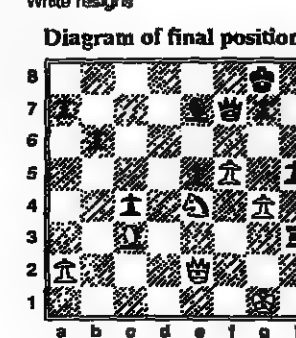
## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Diagram of final position

8  
7  
6  
5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
a b c d e f g h

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.



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## TENNIS

## Kafelnikov makes swift departure in Portugal

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

YEVGENY KAFELNIKOV, of Russia, made a disappointing return from injury yesterday when he was beaten 6-2, 6-0 by Gilbert Schaller in the first round of the Estoril Open in Oeiras, Portugal, the first European tournament of the year on clay.

Kafelnikov, the French Open champion and the No 1 seed for this event, was playing his first match since breaking a finger in January and was overwhelmed by his Austrian opponent in less than an hour. "He didn't have any self-confidence," Schaller said of Kafelnikov, who is 79 places above him in the world rankings at No 4.

Also eliminated was the No 3 seed, Wayne Ferreira, who lost 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 to Francisco Cabello, of Argentina. Cabello, ranked No 470 in the world, overcame leg cramp and a 3-0 deficit in the third set to oust the South African.

Elsewhere, Carlos Moyá, the No 2 seed, advanced to the third round with a 6-2, 6-3 win over Richard Fromberg, of Australia, while his fellow Spaniard, Alex Corretja, cruised into the second round with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Hernán Gurny, of Argentina. Marcelo Filippini, of Uruguay, recovered from a set down to beat Juan Albert Vilco, of Spain, 3-6, 7-6, 6-1.

Monica Seles has pulled out of the Women's Tennis Association tournament in Amelia Island, Florida, this week as she has bronchitis. The former world No 1 had been due to face Jennifer Capriati in the first round, but her place in the draw now goes to Olívia Díaz, of Argentina.

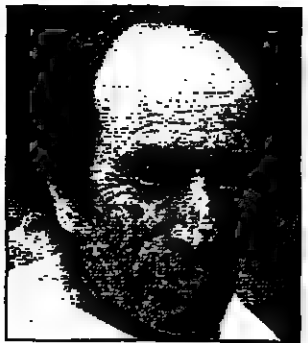
Seles, out of action for most of the season because of injury, narrowly lost to the new world No 1, Martina Hingis, of Switzerland, in a three-set final in Hilton Head on Sunday, only her second tournament after a four-month lay-off.

Jeremy Bates and Chris Bailey, of Britain, now both retired from the ATP Tour, are to team up to play in the Legends Tournament in Scotland next month. The event is to be staged alongside the women's World Doubles Cup at the Craiglockhart Tennis Centre in Edinburgh from May 21 to 24.

Bates, six times the British champion, is now the Lawn Tennis Association's manager of men's national training, while Bailey is a television commentator.

## Chelsea prepare for acrimonious parting

BRIAN GLANVILLE



When relationships reach breaking point

Rud Gullit and Gianluca Vialli have probably reached the point of no return, after Chelsea's first win against Arsenal last Saturday. "This town," they might say, as is said in the West, "ain't big enough for both of us." Gullit has been tactless, Vialli feels humiliated. As Italian stars do, he has given soft answers in England, but spoken grievous words on Italian television. But to call Gullit jealous of Vialli surely borders on absurdity.

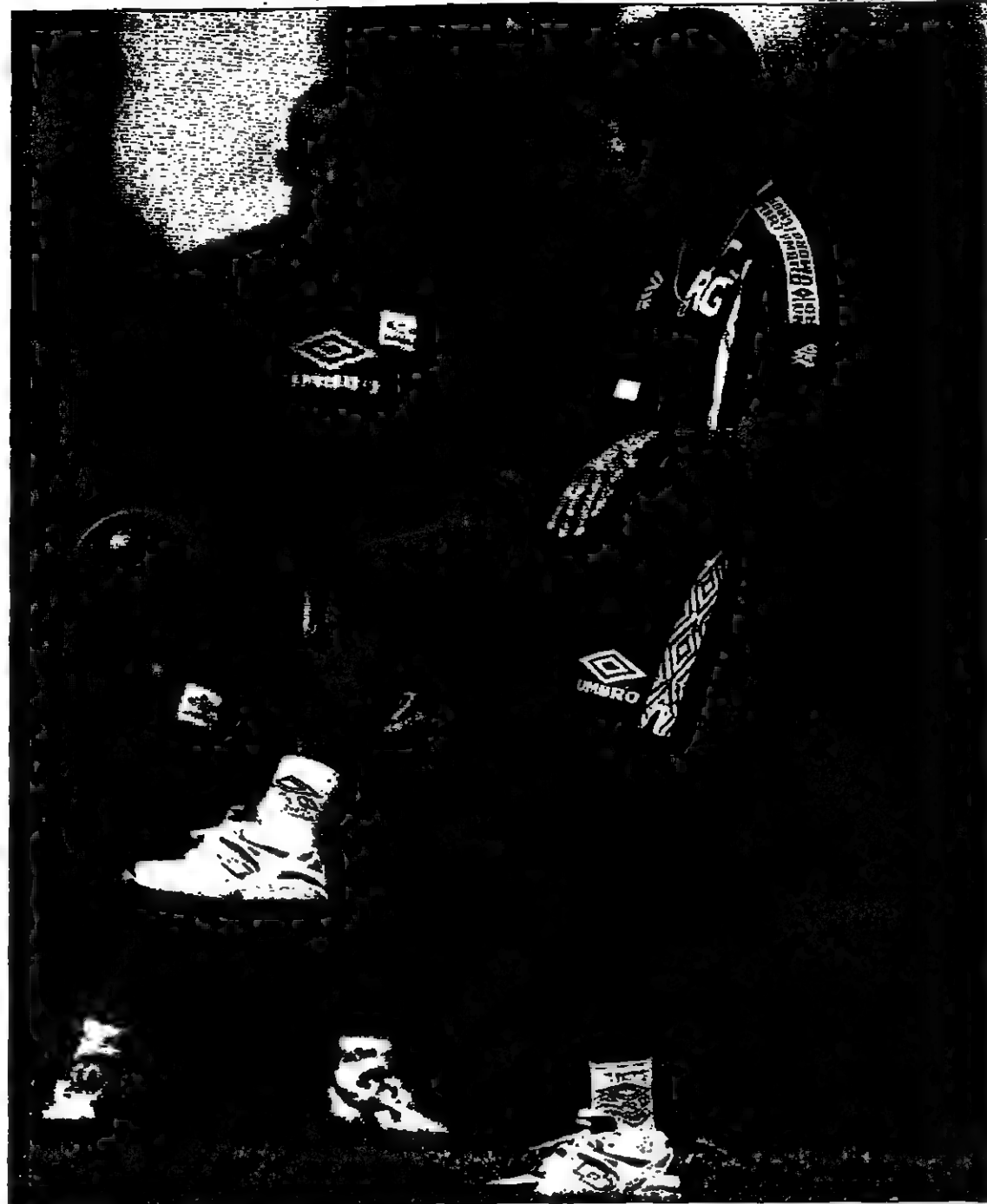
In this respect, Fabio Capello, the former manager of AC Milan, now manager, for the moment, of Real Madrid, has been called in support. He had accused Gullit of "arrogance" when once he brought himself on in attack, rather than take Vialli off the bench, "when everyone knows Gullit's finished as a player. He didn't get anywhere near the ball".

The fact is that Gullit is very far from finished as a player. He remains, potentially, a majestic figure, though he himself has said repeatedly he would be quite happy to stop playing.

Remember, too, that Capello is not entirely an objective observer. Under his aegis at Milan, Gullit twice in a season left the club for Sampdoria, the second time after an unhappy stay when he no longer seemed *persona grata* in the dressing room.

It has been alleged that for every "Gullit" shirt sold by the Chelsea club shop, 25 have been sold of Vialli's, a figure that the club shop dismisses. In any case, what would it matter?

It would surely be astounding if a player as proud and celebrated as Vialli did not feel badly about his



Gullit monopolises the ball in training as Vialli, as he has done so often this season, looks on

exclusion from the team. He reacted bitterly to being dropped by the then manager, Arrigo Sacchi, from Italy's 1994 World Cup finals squad. When it seemed that they might be reconciled, Vialli learnt, to his fury, that Sacchi, never the most tactful of men, had carried out polls among his players. Many of them came from

Milan, and Vialli was thumbed down. When many came from his own club, Juventus, the answer was positive.

Stand-offs between famous players and a dominating manager are commonplace of football history, not least in Italy. "He's mad!" Roberto Baggio said after Sacchi pulled him

off the field at Giants Stadium during the World Cup game against Norway in 1994, after Pagliuca, the Italy goalkeeper, had been sent off.

Despite the subsequent, vital World Cup goals he scored, Baggio was never dear to Sacchi. He was publicly horrified this season when Sacchi returned as manager of

CLIVE MASON / ALLSPORT

Milan and was then promptly dropped him from the team.

At least Chelsea have kept Vialli, even if, at the end of this season, he moves to pastures new, probably in Italy. Juventus, by contrast, jettisoned him last season, even though he had just captained the team that won the European Cup. Just as, with equal ruthlessness, they had jettisoned Baggio, the season before. And what of the emotional Fabrizio Ravanelli, "the White Feather", scorer of Juve's goal in that European Cup final?

Within weeks he was summoned from his native Perugia to Turin and told that he was on his way. "Like a bolt from the blue," he cried, as he often does. There, indeed, was humiliation for you — though, as an Italian critic remarked, Ravanelli had publicly told his coach, Marcello Lippi, to go to hell once too often.

## 'It would be astounding if Vialli did not feel badly about his exclusion'

What Chelsea have suffered from is simply an embarrassment of riches. The evening Gianfranco Zola arrived from Parma and attended a press conference, Gullit was asked how he would accommodate Zola. Mark Hughes and Vialli in attack. He replied that he might play all three of them.

It did not work and when Vialli partnered Hughes, they duplicated rather than complemented one another. Once it grew clear that Hughes and Zola worked wonderfully together, Gullit was on the horns of a dilemma.

You might criticise him for asking his players which formation they preferred, hearing a response that they wanted two players up front — managers should make up their own minds — but there can be no doubt that this was the ideal solution.

Vialli can console himself that when he did leave Juventus, it was, thanks to the Bosman ruling, on a free transfer — and that, as the main man in Italy's players' union, he had extended that concession to domestic transfers. Meanwhile, you can understand his frustration. Even if this is scarcely the first case of its kind.

## Barcelona struggle to overcome injury problems

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

AT full strength, Barcelona would be worthy favourites for the Cup Winners' Cup, but when Fiorentina, of Italy, take the field at the Nou Camp Stadium tonight, they will have every reason to believe they can upset the odds.

Barcelona have an injury problem, indeed several of them, involving players who would ordinarily demand places in the first team. Iván de la Peña, Josep Guardiola, Sergi and Luis Enrique are all key figures in the Barcelona line-up, de la Peña and Guardiola offering vision in midfield and Sergi and Luis Enrique strength and pace along the left touchline. None seems likely to play in the semi-final, first leg match tonight and, with possible replacements also struggling, Bobby Robson, the coach, has a problem.

Worse, it is a problem that has arisen at a bad time. Barcelona may have won the Cup Winners' Cup on three occasions in the past but, with the Spanish league firmly in the grip of their rivals, Real Madrid, success in Europe would ease growing pressure from their supporters. Suggestions that Guardiola is to join Parma in Italy during the summer and that Ronaldo, the brilliant Brazilian, is a money-no-object target for Lazio have hardly helped matters. At least Barcelona are in form, having thrashed Sporting Gijón 4-0 over the weekend.

Thus, Fiorentina arrived in Barcelona in bullish mood. Their Argentina striker, Gabriel Batistuta, said: "I've never felt inferior to anyone. Sure, the Catalan side has 22 great players and lots of international experience, but the real Fiorentina can beat anyone."

Nor will they concentrate their attentions, simply on Ronaldo. "That would be equivalent to allowing a free hand to all the other nine players, all equally useful," Claudio Ranieri, the Fiorentina coach, said.

## Porterfield to return home

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

IAN PORTERFIELD is to resign as coach of the Zimbabwe national team because of what he called yesterday "unwarranted criticism".

The Scot, a former manager of Chelsea, Sheffield United and Aberdeen, said he would not extend his six-month contract with the Zimbabwe Football

Association (Zifa) when it expires at the end of April because he had had enough.

Porterfield helped rebuild the national team in neighbouring Zambia when their squad perished in a plane crash in 1993, but he has undergone heavy criticism since taking the Zimbabwe job. Local media have accused him of transforming the Zimbabwe side from an attacking outfit into an ultra-defensive one.

Zimbabwe have lost three away matches, won three and drawn one home game under his charge in the qualifying rounds of the African nations' cup and World Cup and the chances of the team qualifying for either of the two events for the first time are slim.

"There is too much unwarranted criticism of the team here and it is unlike in Zambia, where everyone was behind the team," Porterfield said, adding that he would leave after Zimbabwe's home match against Angola in the next World Cup qualifier on April 27. "I am definitely going back home to see my wife and my children soon after the game against Angola. Even if I am offered a lot of money, that will not count. I will be very happy to go home," he said.

Three managers fell foul of the Football Association yesterday for talking out of turn to match officials. Brian Horton, of Huddersfield Town, was severely censured and fined £100 for comments made to a linesman in the Yorkshire club's home defeat by Bolton Wanderers on February 22. It was Horton's second misconduct charge of the season.

Kevin Ratcliffe, of Chester City, was censured and fined £20 for talking out of turn to the referee during his side's game at Fulham on March 1. John Baldwin, the manager of

the FA Cup giantkillers, Huddersfield Town, was censured, warned about his future conduct and fined £150 for remarks made to a referee in his side's Vauxhall Conference game with Gateshead.

England have dropped two places in the latest Fifa rankings, despite their Wembley victory over Mexico, who are rated higher in the world list. However, Scotland have climbed three places since February after home World Cup wins over Estonia and Austria.

England drop from twelfth to fourteenth in the period February to April, despite beating Mexico, who have gone from eleventh to twelfth, at Wembley on March 29. Scotland went from 27th to 24th, while Wales somehow move up from 82nd to 81st, despite a home defeat by Belgium. Northern Ireland are up five places to 63rd, while the Republic went from 39th to 41st.

Major League Soccer (MLS) in the United States will add teams in Miami and Chicago for the 1998 season, expanding the league to 12 teams. It was announced yesterday. The Miami team will play its home games at the Orange Bowl, while the Chicago club will be based at Soldier Field, home to Chicago Bears, of the National Football League.

Leeds United are preparing a bid for the highly-rated Bury defender, Chris Lucketti. David O'Leary, the Leeds assistant manager, was at Gigg Lane on Tuesday to check the form of the centre-back, who would cost Leeds around £1.5 million, and O'Leary would not have been disappointed, with Lucketti outstanding again in Bury's rearguard as they extended their lead at the top of the Nationwide League second division to four points.

## Fulham stall celebrations to chase championship medals

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

BOLTON Wanderers became the first club to fulfil their ambitions this season when victory against Queens Park Rangers at Burnden Park on Saturday secured promotion from the Nationwide League first division to the FA Cup Premiership. On Tuesday night, Fulham, Wigan Athletic and Rotherham United also defined their immediate future.

For Fulham and Wigan, it was an equally memorable occasion, confirming their upward departure from the third division and bringing due reward for eight months' graft. Fulham drew 0-0 away to Mansfield Town in a dour encounter, while Wigan beat Colchester United 1-0 at Springfield Park.

For Rotherham, the emotions contrasted starkly. A 1-0 defeat by Wrexham at the Racecourse Ground sentenced them to relegation from the second division, with four matches remaining. Rotherham, winners of the Anglo-Windscreens Shield at Wembley only a year ago, had fallen from grace with barely a whimper.

Fulham, though, still have much work to be done. They lie a point behind Wigan, with a game in hand, and want to win the divisional championship. Even amid the post-match celebrations at Field Mill, Jimmy Hill, the Fulham chairman, retained a sense of perspective.

"I know from experience that you only get a medal if you win the title," Hill said. "If the players want a medal to take home to their wives and mothers, then that's what they've got to do."

"It's still a moment of joy to be grasped and savoured and a moment to let London know

that Fulham is still there by the river and it's a club with a big beating heart. The game sometimes kicks you in the teeth and this is the first bit of happiness we've had for about ten years."

Simon Morgan, the Fulham captain, was almost overwhelmed. "A 0-0 result at Mansfield might not sound too good, but it was a great point for us," he said. "I feel shattered, we all do, and I can't really describe my feelings when the final whistle

14 months ago, when Ian Branfoot moved upstairs at Craven Cottage to become general manager. He has had to endure intermittent criticism along the way, but, after an unbeaten run of 11 matches, Fulham will return to the second division after a three-year absence.

"I knew we were fit and ready at the start of the season, but I didn't really think we could do this," Adams said. "I'm a fighter, my players are fighters and all the cynics and critics that had a go at us from time to time can now eat their words."

Wigan are already making plans for next season, with Dave Whelan, the club's wealthy chairman, having promised funds of £2 million for team strengthening. "We have been in the wilderness for far too long," he said. "The fans appreciate what I'm trying to do for the club and they deserve success."

"Hopefully, we can do the same next year and get into the first division. Money is available and we are really serious about things. After the first division, who knows? Perhaps the Premiership."

Like Fulham, Wigan still eye the championship. "Promotion is what we have worked for and now we can go all out for the title," John Deehan, the Wigan manager, said. Carlisle United are also in contention, three points behind Fulham, but missed the opportunity to guarantee promotion when they were beaten 2-1 by Darlington. However, they still hold a ten-point advantage over Swansea City, their nearest rivals, and will return to the second division, which they left only last season, if they beat Mansfield this weekend.



Adams: surprised

went. It was just brilliant. "We've got four games left, four parties, but we still desperately want to win that title. I've never been hugged by so many supporters and I got a few kisses as well — I just wish they had shaved!"

For Micky Adams, the Fulham manager, it represented the pinnacle of his career. "I haven't really had many great moments, apart from an FA Cup semi-final when I was at Leeds," he said. "This has surpassed anything I could have dreamt of."

Adams, 35, took charge only

## Gray hopes for repeat of history

ANDY GRAY, the former England midfielder player, will draw on all his experience of cup upsets when he plays for Falkirk in the Tennents Scottish Cup semi-final against Celtic at Ibrox on Saturday.

Gray was a member of the Crystal Palace team that beat Liverpool 4-3 at Villa Park in 1990 in a memorable semi-final. "Liverpool were hot favourites," Gray said. "They had beaten us 9-0 earlier that season and nobody gave us a chance in the cup semi-final but we just went out and did it."

Falkirk, of the Bell's Scottish League first division, are the underdogs and talk of internal strife at Celtic Park has not altered the opinions of the bookmakers. "There have been a lot of headlines about Celtic and their problems but to be honest those are all about the manager and the chairman they have nothing to do with the players," Gray said.

"But this is the semi-final I wanted. If Falkirk are to go out, and I am not being negative, then I'd rather we went down to Celtic in front of 50,000 at Ibrox than lose to Dundee United of Kilmarnock."

Gray, 33, who has also played for Aston Villa, Queens Park Rangers and Tottenham Hotspur, won his one England cap in Poland in 1991. His career at Brockville has been revived since Alex Totten succeeded Eamonn Bannon as manager at the end of last year.

"Alex is like a player. He gets nervous before big games and doesn't try to hide it and he shows his emotions when we win. If he hadn't come to Falkirk I would be sitting back with a cigar, picking up my wages and not worrying in the slightest," Gray said.

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# Augusta lacking its usual bloom

When you tread the fairways of Augusta National in the company of men who would be masters, two things stand out. The undulations of the course are steeper than television conveys and some of the players carry an aura found in very few walks of life.

Greg Norman is one of these and, of course, attracts the crowds and those who follow the game on television. Last year, he mobilised millions, who accompanied him on his personal descent into trauma as he lost the sixteenth Masters to Nick Faldo. And now, just before coming back to his nemesis, he has immobilised the President of the United States, who fell and injured a knee whilst socialising at Norman's estate.

Yet, though the sympathy wave from Americans supposed to be attracted only to winners follows Norman, it is Tiger Woods who towers around an even bigger gallery. In yesterday's soft morning sunlight, they walked ten abreast, a thousand and more, examining every stroke and every mannerism of a 21-year-old who, being gifted and

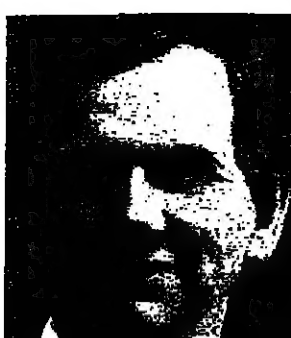
black, is accentuating social integration in the deep South. Woods, indeed, challenges even the preserved gentility of Augusta National where there are few concessions to the worldwide trend to plaster everything in sport with sponsors' logos... for he gives the impression of being a walking billboard for Nike.

They say he is worth close to \$100 million before fulfilling his obvious potential and he reverses another trend; he plays for glory rather than money.

Augusta tries to resist change. Its members, said to number 300, are the untouchables, a secrecy of masonic inclinations. Yet Norman can come and go through Augusta's tradition, so even might Faldo whose relentless pursuit of a fourth green jacket, draws American admiration, as for a dentist drawing teeth.

However, there is something missing from the Masters this year. The spring came unseasonably early, the azaleas and dogwoods have shed their bloom, so the old oak trees around the traditional clubhouse, are now stark

ROB HUGHES



At Augusta

against the manicured turf. Inside that clubhouse, walking up the spiral staircase beyond the framed pictures of every winner, a visitor feels humbled.

Looking down from the verandah, one sees the oldest swinger playing in the tournament. Arnold Palmer draws his own faithful gallery. They may be walking with him down Magnolia Lane but perhaps it is also memory lane.

That he, playing in his 42nd Masters, is here at all inspires

others. Woods visibly looks too Palmer, an almost paternal guide, who time and again suggests to the icon, who is playing here for the first time as a professional, that he should try to relax and enjoy his natural talent... if natural it can be to have begun this game with a sawn-off club at the age of four.

Palmer, back on the fairways for barely a month after surgery for cancer of the prostate, has already shown Norman the way.

Norman, more slender than we are accustomed to seeing him, was outwardly relaxed as he faced 62 questions, revealing that he had received 11,000 letters of support from all over the world, when all he had done was to be beaten by Faldo in that unforgettable final round last year.

"Is this story over now, guys?" he asked as the journalists began talking of the "Norman redemption tour".

Of course it is not. We will be up with the crack of dawn, watching every stroke, every facial twitch, to see how the return to Augusta affects the Queenslander. He has already been upstaged. For while Norman was stuck in traffic for

two hours, Palmer flew in, piloting his new Citation 10 Cessna.

Ultimately, even at this rarefied level, golf is a game of individuals seeking to master themselves and the terrain. But those seeking to drag the members of this club into the 21st century, are not making much progress.

CBS Television can influence the order of play, move the big names towards prime-time viewing, but they remain unable to buy Augusta, to manipulate it as so many sports are by the broadcasting paymasters.

Jack Stephens, the chairman of the club, was asked repeatedly yesterday why progress is so slow in granting television the right to televise the first nine holes on this course, holes never seen around the world.

"Well, honestly, progress is slow," the chairman said distastefully, "because we don't want to do it."

"A lot of my cohorts don't think it's of any merit. Have you noticed when the TV comes on here there's a mass exodus of people." The old masters.

## Norman out to conquer nerves

FROM JOHN HOPKINS  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT  
IN AUGUSTA

OF THE three major championships held annually on this side of the Atlantic, the Masters is the one that contains more thrills and spills than a circus. Barnum and Bailey's Big Top has nothing on Augusta National. Roll up! Roll up! Come and see the world's greatest golfers reduced to nervous wrecks on the fastest greens in the world.

Year in and year out the pattern is the same. The fifth

**MASTERS 97**



Norman receives coaching on his putting from David Leadbetter as he prepares to tackle the Masters

day of the first full week of the fourth month of the year marks the commencement of the Masters. The honorary starters, Gene Sarazen, Byron Nelson and Sam Snead, whose combined ages total 264 years, tee off at 8am as they have done for years and then the tournament gets underway, rising to a finish that is sometimes pulsating on Sunday afternoon.

At the 61st Masters, the rites and routines may remain the same, but the event is different. Rarely in recent memory have so few of the famed azaleas, dogwood, crab apple,

redbud, firethorn been present. Normally a riot of colour, the course this year is just well, green. And never in recent memory have there been so many subplots waiting to unfold. Never mind what will surely unfold over

the last nine holes on Sunday afternoon because, seemingly, it always does. Look at what is in prospect this morning.

Nick Faldo is back where he defeated Greg Norman so badly last year and won his third green jacket. An 11-stroke swing from Norman to Faldo over 18 holes was sufficient to suggest that Norman's collapse was the greatest in championship golf. Norman's grace under pressure started an outpouring of support for him and when he had received 11,000 pieces of mail in the two months after the Masters last year he stopped counting.

The question that is most valid is: Has it left a mark on Norman? How will he compete this year? He putted poorly two weeks ago, not much better in New Orleans last week and is hardly over-golfed. He has played only three strokeplay events in the United States and one on the European tour since the new year. This week will be as much a mental as a physical test. "Going back to Augusta," Norman said, "will be the challenge of my life."

To meet the challenge of his life, Norman flew here on Tuesday morning after a session with a motivational expert on Monday. "I am not the only one who's ever blown a

lead," Norman said. "I messed up badly, but it has happened before and it will happen again." Then, as if to emphasize once more that he is the most gracious loser in sport, he said: "I don't think Nick has got enough credit for what he did. He shot a great score when he had to. He put pressure on me. I don't think enough attention's been paid him for that."

Faldo is attempting to become the first man to win in successive years since he did it in 1989 and 1990. He arrived here from Lake Nona, Orlando, where he had been practising his putting for several hours each day on greens that he had been shown and, thus, speeded up specially for him. His game was better than in 1996, when he had missed the cut at the Players Championship. It would, he forecast, all depend on his putting.

If one of the two wishes for Faldo it would be that his putting would be as good as it was last year, when he three-putted the fastest and some of the largest and most undulating greens only once, and that he would dismiss the apparent tetchiness with which he greets British journalists.

As if these subplots were not enough to whet the appetite, there are more. There is, for

example, the remarkable comeback by José María Olazábal, who has finished 12th, fourth, first and seventh in four tournaments on two continents since he returned to competitive play after suspected rheumatoid arthritis in his feet. Were Olazábal, whose feet still hurt and for whom the hilly contours of Augusta represent his most severe test yet, to win his second Masters it would be the greatest comeback in golf since Ben Hogan was nearly killed in a car crash in February 1949 and finished fourth in the 1950 Masters and won the US Open that year.

And then there is the Tiger Woods phenomenon. Suffice to say that in the practice round yesterday spectators were jostling one another to photograph his ball. The hulabaloo that surrounds this remarkable young man is grating to the ears of other golfers. Faldo, for example, perhaps fearful of how good Woods already is and how much of a threat he poses, will not discuss the prodigy, even though he has to play with him in the first round today.

Colin Montgomerie, whose own chances may have improved as a result of a lessening in attention being paid to him, believes that Woods can win.

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16/1 Lehman	40/1 Roberts	40/1 Roberts	40/1 Roberts
16/1 N. Price	40/1 Woosnam	40/1 Woosnam	40/1 Woosnam
20/1 Elkington	40/1 Singh	40/1 Singh	40/1 Singh
20/1 Els	40/1 Brooks	40/1 Brooks	40/1 Brooks
20/1 Montgomerie	50/1 Cook	50/1 Cook	50/1 Cook
20/1 O'Meara	50/1 Calavecchia	50/1 Calavecchia	50/1 Calavecchia
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### TODAY'S TEE-OFF TIMES AT THE MASTERS

First-round tee-off times at Augusta (US unless stated, all times BST, \* denotes amateurs)

13:30 G. Brewer, C. Coody, 13:30 W. Casper, D. Ford, 13:30 J. Aaron, K. Green, 13:47 J. Cook, S. Clark, 13:58 S. Heath, S. Tarrant (GB), 14:05 L. Miles, J. Miller, 14:14 D. Forsman, L. Westwood (GB), 14:22 S. Norman, M. Bradley, 14:30 S. McCarron, J. Leonard, 14:41 S. Hart, D. Waldorf, 14:50 D. A. Webster, E. Finn, 14:59 F. Zoller, \* S. Scott

15:08 L. Jansen, F. Nobilo (NZ), 15:17 D. Ogden, C. Rose, 15:26 M. Brooks, S. Appleby (Aus), 15:35 J. Miles, D. Borge (Jap), 15:44 R. Twp, J. Mcginn, 15:53 D. Duval, J. Parnewick (Ire), 16:02 C. Stiller, D. Frost (SA), 16:11 J. Fung, K. Perry, 16:20 F. Couples, V. Singh (Fil), 16:29 C. Pavin, L. Roberts, 16:38 A. Lyle (GB), M. Calavecchia, 16:47 T. Nis, P. Ridger, 16:56 C. Montgomerie (GB), D. Love II, 17:05 B. Faxon, T. Tolls, 17:14 S. Jones, P. J. Johnson (Swe)

17:23 B. Cranshaw, C. Rocca (It), 17:32 T. Watson, S. Elkington (Aus), 17:41 J. Nicklaus, Y. Kameki (Japan), 17:50 R. Poyel, R. Mcleary (GB), 17:59 G. Norman (Aus), P. Macdonald, 18:08 A. Palmer, \* W. Blackon (GB), 18:17 S. Langer (Ger), M. Mcleary (GB), 18:26 S. Player (SA), \* T. Hogarth, 18:35 S. Shikler, P. Stanowski, 18:44 M. Fido (GB), T. Woods, 18:53 J. M. Calavecchia (Ire), M. O'Neale, 19:02 J. Lehman, N. Price (NZ), 19:11 W. Casper (GB), S. G. (SA), 19:20 S. Shikler, M. Cook (Japan), 19:29 J. Huston, W. Wood, 19:38 F. Funk, G. Borge

### TELEVISION CHOICE

## Sew far, sew good!

**Mad About Machines: Sew Beautiful**  
Channel 4, 8.00pm

So far the subjects of this enjoyable series have had a touch of the eccentric about them. But Julie Parr makes you feel that collecting old sewing machines is the most normal thing in the world. She has 70 of them and they take up every spare corner of her house in Sutton-in-Ashfield. Her favourite, a delicate little model from the 1920s, was rescued from a skip. You cannot beat the old ones, she says, for beauty, craftsmanship and character. Luckily for domestic harmony her husband shares her enthusiasm and if a machine needs fixing, he is the man to do it. Julie Parr not only collects sewing machines, she also uses them to make clothes for the family. It is something of a buswoman's holiday for her day job, the one she gets paid for, is sewing PVC underwear.

**Snooker: The Crucible - 21 Years**  
BBC2, 9.00pm

The second look back at the snooker world championship covers the years from 1983 to 1989 and includes some of the event's richest material. In recent years the fare from the Sheffield Crucible has been less gripping, or perhaps Stephen Hendry has been winning too often. In the 1980s it was Steve Davis who kept winning and it is for this reason, paradoxically, that we tend to remember the rare occasions when he did not. Two of them feature large tonight. There was the victory, against the longest of odds, for the little-known Yorkshireman Joe Johnson. But the match of the decade was surely the final between Davis and Dennis Taylor, which kept millions of viewers up into the small hours and was decided in the final frame with only the black left on the table. In the excitement even Ted Lowe rose above his famous whisper.

**1964 and All That**  
Channel 4, 9.00pm

As the Labour Party approaches the general election it must face the final between Davis and Dennis Taylor, which kept millions of viewers up into the small hours and was decided in the final frame with only the black left on the table. In the excitement even Ted Lowe rose above his famous whisper.

### RADIO CHOICE

**Eastern Approaches**  
Radio 3, 1.00pm

I was exhilarated by Roderic Dunnett's voyage of discovery. He goes back to the middle of the 19th century to unearth some of the half-forgotten operas by composers born in countries that, until recent times, were still in the Eastern bloc. Patriotism is the theme in programme one. It proves a strong peg on which to hang some rousing, affecting and dramatic arias. One of them is a soprano and mezzo duet from Morjuszko's Polish opera *The Haunted Manor*, given regularly by the London Welsh Choir. Presumably he assumes that we know how soul started, what it is, and where it is going. Not all of us, of course, has missed a good chance to do a bit of proselytising.

### RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiteley 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Kevn Greening 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session with Steve Lamacq 8.30 Movie Update 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Dave Pearce 1.00am Dave Pearce

### RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 8.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Dingle 3.00 Ed Sheeran 5.00 John Peel 7.00 David Allen 8.00 Paul Jones 9.00 Andy Peebles Soul Show See Choice 9.30 The News 10.00am Stand Up Two 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.05am Steve Macdon 3.00 Alex Lester

### RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mark 2.00 Race on Five 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.30 The European Cup Final 8.00 News 8.30 Sportsman's Special 9.30 Sportsman's Special 10.00 Brian Hayes's Election Poll 10.15 News Extra 12.00 After Hours - Early Call with Vincent Hanna 2.00am Up All Night

### TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Greenhalgh 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tony Boyd 4.00 Peter Dinkley 7.00 Radio 5's Sportszone 10.00 James White 10.00 Ian Collins

### WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. 5.30am Europe Today 7.30 The World Today 9.15 On the Shelf 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.15 Concert Hall 10.15 Farming World 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Sport 11.30 One Planet 12.30am Sports International 1.05 Business Report 1.15 Britain Today 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Megamix 4.05 Sport 4.15 Performance 4.30 Everywoman 5.30 Business Report 5.45 Britain Today 6.15 World Today 6.30 From Our Own Correspondent 7.30 The World 8.01 Outlook 8.30 Multitrack X-Press 10.05 Business 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 On Screen 11.30 World Today 11.45 Sport 12.01am Outlook 12.30 Multitrack 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.30 Omnibus 3.30 Meridian Books 4.05 World Business 4.15 Sport

### CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 7.00 Miles Road 9.00 Hall of Fame Hour 10.00 Harry Kelly 1.00pm Lushington Concerts John Mahon (Chelvet Concerto in F major), Paganini (Violin Concerto No 3 in E major) 3.00 Jamie Cullum 7.00 Classic Newswatch with John Brunning 7.30 Sonata. Novon Kraft (Horn Sonata in F major) 8.00 Evening Concert. Lick (Macpagan's Symphony Poem); Dvorak (Four Romantic Pieces, Op 78), Schumann (Symphony No 4 in D minor, Op 120), Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 3 in D minor) 10.00 News Meridian, Includes Nocturne 2.00 Lushington Concerto (H)

### VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Nicky Howe 7.00 Paul Coyte (FBI) Robin Banks (A&M) 10.00 Mark Forster 2.00am Randal Lee Ross

### RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Includes Beethoven (Piano Sonata in F minor, Op 2 No 1, Tchaikovsky (Suite No 2 in B C), Maxwell Davies (Caroline), Purcell, real Britten (Sound the Trumpet, I Attempt from Love's Sickness to Fly), Leclair (Premiere Recitation de Musique), Lully (Ballet de la Reine), 9.00 Morning Collection. Includes Haydn (Piano Trio in D minor, HXV 23), Loewe (Hinkende Jamben; Die Pfingstkerchen Süsses Begräbnis); Sibelius (Incidental Music, Op 24), Schumann (Symphony No 1 in B minor), 10.00 Musical Encounters. Introduced by Hans Burton-Page. Includes Haydn (Symphony No 51 in B flat); Brahms (Five Part Songs, Op 104); Janacek (Pohodby, Sest joly (Day Music); List (Piano Sonata in B minor) 12.00 Composer of the Week: Rozsa 1.00pm Eastern Approaches. See Choice (1/4) 2.00 Beethoven Quintet. Prof. Peter King Quartet No 2: Beethoven (String Quartet in F minor, Op 59); Tchaikovsky (String Quartet No 2 in F, Op 22) (1) 3.30 The BBC Orchestra. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, under Martin Brabbins. Rachmaninov (Symphony No 3 in A minor) (1) 4.15 Ensemble, with Penny Gore (1) 6.00 Music Machine, with Luce Creswell

5.15 In Tune, with Humphrey Carpenter. Includes Max Steiner (Dodge City); Couperin (Magnificat); Berwald (Symphony No 1 in G minor, Sinfonie Serieuse) 7.30 Sounding the Century: Rachmaninov. Introduced by Kirsten McCue. Maria Gavrilova, soprano; Arkady Mikhelson, tenor; Vladimir Reckin, bass; Royal Scottish National Orchestra Chorus and Orchestra, under Alexander Lazarov. Rachmaninov, orch Respighi (Five Etudes Tableaux); Respighi (Trifetto Botticelliano); Rachmaninov (The Bell) 8.55 The Undertaking. The American poet Thomas Lynch talks about his work as an undertaker (4/5) 9.10 From Renaissance to Jazz. John Harle reflects on his musical tastes. Includes Britten, Frescobaldi, Cima, Kocichin and Aceman 10.00 Music Restored. Anthony Rooley introduces a concert by Fagiolini 10.45 Night Waves. Tony Palmer and guests discuss the impact of the film by Miles Forman portraying the life of the notorious photographer Larry Flynt 11.30 Composer of the Week: Amy Beach (1) 12.30am Jazz Notes, with Dicky Fairweather 1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

### RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News 6.15 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, includes Thought for the Day 8.40 Racing Pige and Giant Marrows (4/5) 9.00 News 9.05 Election Call. Peter Sissons puts listeners' questions to the Liberal Democrat Chairman Kenneth Clarke (3/5) 9.15 The Big Breakfast. Call 0345-514614 10.00 News; One Bright Child (F), by Patricia Cumper, with Ben Thomas and Doria Croft (4/5) 10.01 Radio 4's Big Book of This Day (LW) 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Wendy Austin 11.30 From Our Own Correspondent. Reports from BBC correspondents from around the world 12.00 News; You and Yours. Current news and current affairs with Mark Whitaker 12.25pm Kelly's Heroes. Chris Kelly explores the lives of real and fictional characters 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (1) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; Thursday Afternoon Play: Paradise Radio, by Dominic Power 3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Allen reviews A Greater Tomorrow, a play about Scottish volunteers who fought in the Spanish Civil War

4.45 Short Story: Broken Nights, by Margaret McAllister. Read by Daphne Clifford (1) 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Harry Hill's Fruit Corner (4/5) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.28 In Paradise. Noah Richer visits gardens in California. Urian and Arden (3/5) 8.00 Analysis. Peter Kellner chairs a discussion on Britain's economy 8.45 Death in Essex. Sue Monk recalls her experiences as a supply teacher in a comprehensive school (2/3) 9.00 Doctor. He Take Sugar? The programme made for, and by, people with disabilities 9.30 Kaleidoscope (1) 9.55 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Go-Between, by L.P. Hartley. Read by John Rowe (4/10) (1) 11.00 Thirty Minute Theatre: Song of the Whale, by Steve Harnessey. With Guy Bingley (1) 11.30 Utopia and Other Destinations (4/5) 12.00 News 12.05am The Life Book: Never Marry a Medicin, by Sandra Cienfuegos (1) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1, FM 97.9-98.8. RADIO 2, FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3, FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4, FM 92.4-94.5. LW 198. MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE, MW 693, 909. MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1069. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thompson, Jane Gregory and John McInerney.

## To Learn About Wine, Read The Label.

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APRIL ISSUE, ON SALE NOW



# Men behaving not badly, but miserably

Gender stereotypes survive down the ages. The bread winner, the man of the house, the one who goes forth to win it. Men do not cry. Unless they are crying out in pain. Every man of every age knows that at work, there is one thing he must never do: he must never throw his head in his hands and say "I can't cope".

Of course men cry, but the point is that most of them, us, can remember the exact number of times that they have done so. Of course men have moments when they cannot cope, but when those moments come, men note the signs. They walk away from their desks, jobs, families, lives in order to fall apart in private.

The most striking thing about *Modern Times: Brainstorm* (BBC2) last night was that none of the four stressed men it featured could sit down with their (obviously caring) families and say: Please

help me. I would venture that nearly all of the men reading this once, however fleetingly, but the impulses of the hunter-gatherer, the confession of weakness is seen by men as the ultimate weakness.

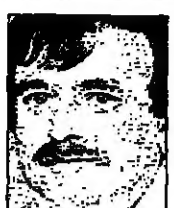
Dr Terry Hirst was a successful GP but when his practice went over to fundholding the paperwork tripled and, as his daughter eloquently said, "the colour went out of his eyes". Terry went to see a gamekeeper he knew, ostensibly because he was interested in hunting. Terry tried out a shotgun, walked into the gamekeeper's house carrying the gun and shot himself to death in the kitchen.

Martyr's first job every morning was to pull the telephone cord out of the wall. Eventually he had a breakdown. "I always wanted to be successful," he said. "Now I just want to be happy."

Ray Wilcox, sociable and outgoing, had been a DSS executive in Newcastle for 23 years. His wife, Alison, knew little about the strain he was under, in fact the family used to joke about the "easy" job he had. Alison did once find a bottle of rum hidden in the garden shed, which Ray explained by saying that he needed it on a Sunday night to prepare for the week ahead.

Some years ago, Alison came home from work to find Ray had gone. The police told Alison that Ray had jumped off a bridge over the Tyne; three weeks later the police discovered that this man wasn't Ray. He has not written,

## REVIEW



Peter Barnard

telephoned or been seen since. Christopher James had a happier story. He was an executive with British Gas but when 25,000 redundancies were announced in the 1980s Christopher's workload increased. The number of security staff was reduced at night, which meant that Christopher had to sit in his office doing his job and watching a security monitor at the same time.

He became ill, lost weight. Eventually he took two weeks' holiday in Tobago and has never come back. He built a complex of rooms, restaurant and pool and runs that from a pair of shorts. He is not in hiding nor is he dead, but like the other three, to escape he had to change the context.

There are no statistics for how many men leave home to avoid painting the upstairs lavatory and I do not wish to encourage anyone to watch *Home Front* (BBC2) for fear of precipitating a domestic crisis. But watching do-it-yourself programmes is like viewing cookery shows: good fun if you enjoy collecting reasons not to do things yourself.

*Home Front* is presented by Tessa Shaw, whose smile should be marked by Cuprinol: it survives in all weathers. The trend in these programmes is to help "ordinary people" by bringing in designers, who will show you how

to make a pair of curtains out of a tablecloth or paint a room in eight shades of scarlet with the result that only a blind man could be polite about it.

Well, yes, last night's families seemed genuinely impressed, so perhaps I am being churlish. You do long for somebody to tip paint over the designer's head or run screaming from the room and I am always suspicious when both the children and the adults in a family enthuse about room decoration. That is a new one on me.

You will have guessed that I shall not be entering *Home Front*'s amateur decorator of the year competition, even though I have finished two of the five window sills that needed urgent attention about two years ago. Perfection takes time.

Another DIY series, *Countryside Undercover* (Channel 4) ended last night. This is DIY television

involving hidden microphones and fuzzy sound but the series has been none the worse for that. This is the sort of revelatory series that gives Douglas Hogg something to think about, or would he not presently thinking about the rest of his life.

Last night, in *Flying Fathers*, the ornithologist David Braithwaite went after people who produce books giving the precise locations of the nests of Britain's threatened birds of prey. This in itself is not illegal and the people who read the books doubtless only wish to have the information on a sort of transposing basis and would not dream of having anything to do with the illegal trade in eggs.

Braithwaite is certainly a convincing undercover man: one of the people he visited asked him to write a book on the nesting sites of the sea eagle, an offer Braithwaite felt able to refuse.

- 6.00am Business Breakfast** (11497)  
**7.00 BBC Breakfast News** (70737584)  
**9.05 Election Call** Liberal Democrat MP Charles Kennedy answers viewers' questions (9436855)  
**10.00 Style Challenge** (63403)  
**10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (51855) (4796519)  
**11.00 News** (T) regional news and weather (4636519)  
**11.05 The Really Useful Show** (T) (9158010)  
**11.35 Change That** (9506584)  
**12.00 News** (T) regional news and weather (4636519)  
**12.05 Call My Bluff** (5015316)  
**12.35 Good Living** (9846887)  
**1.00 News** (T) and weather (77792)  
**1.30 Regional News and Weather** (50303671)  
**1.45 The Weather Show** (38801478)  
**1.50 Neighbours** (T) (22738126)  
**2.15 Quincey** (2/2) (T) (3843038)  
**3.00 Through the Keyhole** (9949)  
**3.30 Playdays** (T) (5068497) 3.50 Postman Pat (5212403) 4.05 Felix the Cat (T) (5276871) 4.20 Julie Jekyll and Harriet Hyde Lyndia Bellingham stars (T) (T) (5264835)  
**4.30 Return to Jupiter** New series of sci-fi adventures with the characters first seen in *Escape from Jupiter* (T) (7573887) 5.00 Newsround (T) (5151363) 5.10 No Sweat (T) (6784297)  
**5.35 Neighbours** (T) (T) (283251)  
**6.00 News and Weather** (861)  
**6.30 Regional News** (213)  
**7.00 Watchdog** presented by Anne Robinson, with Alice Beer (T) (2300)  
**7.30 EastEnders** Huw and Lenny decide to clean the car and the wedding plans are causing friction between Ricky and Bianca (T) (497)  
**8.00 Animal Hospital** Rolf Harris meets the staff and patients at the Hampden Veterinary Hospital and roving reporter Shaun Lowe encounters a dog being trained to work with the deaf (T) (8720)  
**8.30 Only Fools and Horses: Cash and Carry** An opportunity arises for Del to make his fortune. With David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst (T) (7855)  
**9.00 News** (T) and weather (826128)  
**9.55 Election Broadcast: Labour** (T) (55132)  
**10.00 Mrs Merton in Las Vegas** The plain speaking pensioner meets Patrick Duffy and Tony Curtis (1/2) (T) (43836)  
**10.30 Question Time** In the second of the election hustings programmes chaired by David Dimbleby, members of the public put the Liberal Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown on the spot (T) (23478)  
**11.30 Lords of Discipline** (1983) with David Keith and Robert Prosky. In 1984 a black man becomes the first cadet at a South Carolina military school where harsh discipline and violent humiliation are the norm. A maverick senior is given the task of making sense of the ways at the academy and keeping him alive. Directed by Franc Roddam (T) (101126)  
**1.10am Weather** (8514275)

**VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode**  
 The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder to record a programme. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ and Video PlusCode are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

- 7.15am See Hear Breakfast News** (T) (8117010) 7.30 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (T) (4206565) 7.55 Blue Peter (T) (T) (5700039) 8.20 Secret Life of Toys (3365958) 8.35 The Raccoons (T) (9829497) 9.00 Cartoon (2144403) 9.10 The Phil Sivers Show (b/w) (3547284) 9.35 The Muppet Show (b/w) (8670338) 10.00 Teletubbies (67045) 10.30 The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles (T) (1227126)  
**11.20 Golf - US Masters** (104687) 12.30pm Working Lunch (73519) 1.00 Secret Life of Toys (T) (5398854)  
**1.15 US Masters Golf** Steve Rider reports from Augusta (77475039) 2.50 The A to Z of Food (7492478)  
**3.00 News** (T) (7887584)  
**3.05 Campaign Roadshow** Nick Ross invites members of the public to quiz top politicians (T) (9997519)  
**3.35 News** (6705788) 4.00 Blockbusters (8889045) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (8861132) 4.55 Esther (8884555) 5.30 Today's the Day (59)  
**6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine** (T) (98315)  
**6.45 Quantum Leap** Sam materialises as Marilyn Monroe's chauffeur and learns of her imminent suicide (T) (517520)  
**7.30 First Sight WALES: Ken Hom's Hot Wok East: Matter of Fact Election Special** MIDLANDS: Midlands Report NORTH/SOUTH WEST: Close Up Election SOUTH NORTH EAST/NORTH WEST: Close Up North SOUTH: Southern Eye (868)  
**7.58 Video Nation Election Shorts** (889213)  
**8.00 Ken Hom's Hot Wok Crab, Burmese-style chicken and double-steamed cabbage soup and an exotic fruit dessert** (T) (559)  
**8.30 Top Gear** The results of Top Gear's annual Car Satisfaction Survey. Plus: the new Daihatsu Move (T) (5497)



David Vine at the Crucible (9pm)

- 9.00 Snooker: The Crucible** — 21 Years in the Frame  
 Featuring Steve Davis's domination of the 1980s and magical moments for Dennis Taylor and Joe Johnson (T) (1229)  
**9.30 Golf: US Masters Live coverage** from Augusta (87836)  
**10.30 Election Broadcast: Labour** (T) (335328)  
**10.35 Newsnight** (T) (482132)  
**11.20 Golf - US Masters** (915045) Followed by Weatherview  
**12.30am Animated 2** (5307492)  
**12.30 The Learning Zone: Child's Play** (7513256) 1.00 Power and Vision — the West and the Rest (27895) 1.30 England's Green and Pleasant Land (66362) 2.00 Language Season Italy (9627275) 5.00 Business and Work (21458)

- 6.00am GMTV** (6787132)  
**9.25 Chain Letters** (T) (3853958)  
**9.55 Regional News** (T) (3275942)  
**10.00 The Time, the Place** (81671)  
**10.20 This Morning** (T) (6110403)  
**10.30 Regional News** (T) (4389671)  
**12.30 News** (T) and weather (978584)  
**12.54 HTV Crimestoppers** (73378381) 12.55 Wish You Were Here? (T) (T) (9840403) 1.25 Home and Away (T) (5183328) 2.20 Vanessa (T) (5566829) 2.50 Afternoon Live (5015774)  
**3.30 News** (T) (7787774)  
**3.25 Regional News** (T) (7786045)  
**3.30 The Riddlers** (6130855) 3.40 Wizards (T) (8781010) 3.50 Oscar and Friends (6783923) 3.55 Rupert (6076852) 4.20 Mike and Angelo (T) (8169039) 4.45 Sweet (T) (7481039)  
**5.10 A Country Practice** (1528555)  
**5.40 News** (T) and weather (386687)  
**6.00 Home and Away** (T) (551364)  
**6.25 HTV Weather** (942565)  
**6.30 HTV News** (T) (828942)  
**6.55 Election Broadcast: Labour** (828313)  
**7.00 Emmerdale** Rachel is worried by Steve's obsession with Home Farm (T) (4768)  
**7.30 The European Match: Paris St Germain v Liverpool** Bob Wilson presents the coverage of the semi-final, first-leg match in Paris. Liverpool will be going all out for a win as the Cup-Winner's trophy is the only piece of silverware never displayed at Anfield (T) (71132)

NB: Subsequent programmes are subject to alteration and late running



Shaun Scott as Deskin (9.30pm)

- 9.30 The Bill** When a sick woman attempts suicide, her drug-dealing son and resentful daughter are suspected of being involved. Rawlin and Skene think they know how to reach the truth quickly, but DI Deskin disagrees (T) (77381)  
**10.00 News** (T) and weather (34132)  
**10.30 Regional News** (T) (881519)  
**10.40 The West This Week** (271132)  
**11.30 Frieze** From: Forbidden Fashion  
 Revealing how fetish fashion, has gained respectability and can be bought on the high street (T) (232687)  
**11.45 Highlander** (243010)  
**12.35am In Bed with McInerney** (3375850)  
**1.05 Funnies Business** (4812324)  
**1.40 Cyber Cafe** (6301430)  
**2.10 Stand and Deliver** (5011698)  
**3.05 TV Sports Classics** (75470072)  
**3.35 The Good Sex Guide** Live (T) (2785382)  
**4.30 The Time, the Place** (T) (35904)  
**5.00 Grass Roots** (88508)  
**5.30 News** (71633)

- As HTV West except:**  
**12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice** (9840403)  
**5.10-5.40 Shortland Street** (1528855)  
**5.25-5.55 Central News** (147403)  
**10.40 Film: Running Against Time** (88740294)  
**12.40am Funnies Business** (7001035)  
**1.15 Ed's Night Party** (57665)  
**1.45 Club Nation** (4743072)  
**2.40 Access All Areas** (3881188)  
**3.05 Stand and Deliver** (542275)  
**4.05 Central Jobfinder '97** (4630350)  
**5.20 Asian Eye** (2472895)

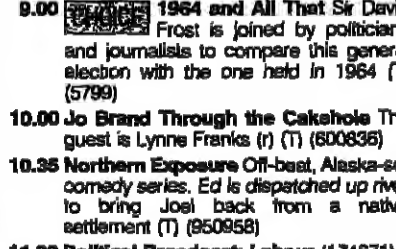
- WESTCOUNTRY**  
**As HTV West except:**  
**12.55pm-1.25 Illuminations** (4389671)  
**12.55 Home and Away** (2071126)  
**1.20-1.50 Emmerdale** (70743126)  
**5.10-5.40 Home and Away** (1528855)  
**6.00-6.55 Westcountry Live** (823519)  
**10.40 Moments of Madness** (392774)  
**11.10 Roadrunner** (239132)  
**11.40 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Prisoners** (108010)  
**12.10am Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Revenge** (3475850)

- As HTV West except:**  
**12.55pm-1.25 Shortland Street** (9840403)  
**5.10-5.40 Home and Away** (1528855)  
**6.00 Meridian Tonight** (551364)  
**6.25-6.55 Grass Roots** (147403)  
**10.30 Meridian News and Weather** (792671)  
**10.45 Film: Taggart** (6636403)  
**3.05am TV Sports Classics** (75470072)  
**5.00 Funnies Business** (88508)

- ANGLIA**  
**As HTV West except:**  
**12.55-1.25 A Country Practice** (9840403)  
**5.10-5.40 Shortland Street** (1528855)  
**6.23 Anglia Weather** (943294)  
**6.25 Anglia News** (40010)  
**6.50-6.55 What's On** (478872)  
**10.40 Cover Story Crime Special** (392774)  
**11.10 Hunter** (910590)  
**12.10am Alfred Hitchcock Presents** (3475850)  
**3.05 TV Sports Classics** (75470072)

- SAC**  
**Starts 6.00 Sesame Street** (14297) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (98403) 9.00 Switched (64519) 9.30 Sister Sister (T) (8762661) 9.55 Hangin' with Mr. Cooper (T) (7127748) 10.20 The Crystal Maze (T) (7417720) 11.20 Earthworm Jim (T) (7080652) 11.40 Pink Panther (T) (8118749)  
**12.00 A Bit of Flava** Black music (4383497) 12.05pm California Dreams (9478749) 12.30 Light Lunch (61403)  
**1.30 Hallowin** Belgian animation (5036381) 1.45 The Feminine Touch/The Gentle Touch (1985) with Belinda Lee, Adrienne Cori and George Baker. A romantic drama about five Irish nurses looking for careers and love in a London hospital. Directed by Pat Jackson (T) (53500300)  
**3.30 Collectors' Lot** (T) (887) 4.00 Fitties-on-One (T) (294) 4.30 Countdown (T) (478) 5.00 Ricki Lake (T) (8774) 6.30 Pet Rescue (T) (958)  
**6.30 Hangin' with Mr. Cooper** American campus comedy with Mark Curry (T) (871)  
**6.30 Hollyoaks** Teen soap (T) (923)  
**7.00 Channel 4 News** (T) (811852)  
**7.50 Thatcher's Children** (T) (942590)  
**8.00 Mad About Machines: Sew Beautiful** Julie Parr shares her fascination with sewing machines (T) (4958)  
**8.30 Brookside** Ollie refuses to give in when Neil and Georgia offer an olive branch. The repercussions of Susanah's accident start to hit home (T) (8215)

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David Frost in the 1960s (9pm)

- 9.00 Frost in the 1960s** 1964 and All That Sir David Frost is joined by politicians and journalists to compare his general election with the one held in 1964 (T) (5799)  
**10.00 Jo Brand Through the Cakeshale** The guest is Lynne Franks (T) (T) (800836)  
**10.35 Northern Exposure** Off-beat, Alaska-set comedy series. Ed is dispatched up river to bring Joel back from a native settlement (T) (800958)  
**11.30 Political Broadcast: Labour** (174571)  
**11.35 The Naked Truth** American comedy series. A man goes into hospital for a simple operation but owing to a mix up by the surgeon has a completely different procedure (T) (105381)  
**12.05am Midnight Special** Discussion series on the election campaign with Sheila MacDonald (9521782)  
**1.35 Sanders of the River** (1935, b/w). African adventure with Leslie Banks as a British Commissioner who quashes an uprising with the help of a loyal chief (Paul Robeson). Directed by Zoltan Korda (607904)  
**3.15 Saxe** A man recalls an uncertain family history (54673343)  
**3.30 Schools** (279527)  
**5.25-6.00 Backdate** (T) (T) (7550879)

- 6.00am 5 News Early** (7846552)  
**7.30 Hallowin** (2068010)  
**8.00 Adventures of the Bush Patrol** (2591036)  
**8.30 Worldwide** Series examining where the power really lies with the Government of the United States (2533010)  
**9.00 Eyewitness** Consumer magazine (5656881)  
**10.00 Exclusive** (T) Showbiz news (6891010)  
**10.30 The Great Garden Game** (T) (T) (267674)  
**11.00 Leesa** (9803858)  
**11.30 Double Espresso** (45480403)  
**12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful** (2584126)  
**12.30 pm Family Affairs** (T) (9478942)  
**1.00 News Update** (92408478)  
**1.05 Sunset Beach** Olivia becomes the prime suspect in Del's murder (T) (8553652)  
**2.00 5's Company** (1536887)  
**3.30 Broken Promise** (1981) with Chris Sarandon, Melissa Matheson and George Clooney. A drama about the efforts of a social worker to keep his promise to a young girl that she will not be separated from her younger brothers and sisters after their parents abandon them. Directed by Don Taylor (4471381)  
**5.20 5's Company: Late Edition** (14431687)  
**5.30 100 Per Cent** (1513045)  
**6.00 White Out** with audience participation (T) (1510958)  
**6.30 Family Affairs** Melanie announces her career plans, which are bound to upset her grandfather (T) (1421010)  
**7.00 Exclusive News** from the entertainment world (1348294)  
**7.30 Serengeti Safari** Herds of wildebeest are preyed upon by wild dogs (7828720)  
**7.55 Party Political Broadcast** by Labour (5908855)  
**8.00 Nancy Lam** Oriental cookery series (1357942)  
**8.30 5 News** with Kirsty Young and Rob Butler (134749)



Tom Hanks as a comedian (9pm)

- 8.00 Punchline** (1988) with Sally Field and Tom Hanks. The story of two aspiring stand-up comics — one a housewife, the other a failed medical student. Directed by David Seltzer (43938497)  
**10.40 Bizarre Tales of the Unusual** (571132)  
**11.00 The Jack Docherty Show** The guests are Rita Tushingham, Richard Morin and Mary Black (8795233)  
**11.40 Bring Me the Head of Light** Entertainment Comedy panel game (2718116)  
**12.10am Live and Dangerous** Sports magazine. Includes coverage of a game from the Brazilian football league (66837207)  
**4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H** (5680817)  
**5.30-6.00 100 Per Cent** (5548898)

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

## SKY 1

- 6.00am Morning Glory** (204403) 6.30 Regis and Keanee Lee (81788) 10.00 Another World (98774) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (58181) 11.30am The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 12.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 1.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 1.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 2.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 2.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 3.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 3.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 4.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 4.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 5.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 6.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 6.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 7.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 7.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 8.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 8.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 9.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 10.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 10.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 11.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 11.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (46010) 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THURSDAY APRIL 10 1997

## SWIMMING 43

Early visit to Bath leaves Palmer feeling refreshed

## SAILING 43

Skippers finish minutes apart after 6,200-mile chase

## Spanish eyes set on striker

# Barcelona stay tight-lipped on Shearer bid

By Peter Ball

THE North East may not win many trophies, but it is fast becoming the centre for international transfer speculation. Yesterday, Newcastle United rather than Middlesbrough became the target, with Barcelona reportedly offering £20 million, a world record were the transfer to go ahead, for Alan Shearer.

Both clubs were tight-lipped yesterday. A Barcelona official was unable to confirm or deny the reports: Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle manager, characteristically would not even go that far, refusing all requests for a comment.

Behind the barricades, though, there seems little doubt that Barcelona did make an approach for Shearer this week. Bobby Robson has long been an admirer of the player and made three attempts last summer to take Shearer to Barcelona when he first arrived at the Nou Camp. "Shearer has to be the best European striker in the game at present," Robson said at the time. "Certainly, Germany, France, Spain and Italy haven't got anybody better than him."

"He is the traditional English centre forward. He is as good as anything England has had since we started competing in World Cups back in the 1950s. He holds up the ball

brilliantly, he is strong, brave, powerful in the air and a terrific finisher. He is a wonderful player."

Blackburn, however, turned the bids down, and instead Robson signed Ronaldo from PSV Eindhoven. The arrival of the outstanding Brazil forward, who won the 1996 world player-of-the-year award, means a more prolonged approach for Shearer unnecessary.

Now, with Ronaldo expected to leave for Italy in an estimated £30 million move in the summer, Shearer would make a natural replacement. The England striker's stock soared on the Continent after

his performances in Euro 96, and he came third in the world player-of-the-year poll behind Ronaldo and George Weah. The move would also do a lot for Robson's standing in Barcelona, Real Madrid's present superiority in the Spanish League having put him under a lot of pressure.

Robson's bid for Shearer suggests that he is far from reconciled to leaving the Spanish club at the end of the season, as had been widely expected. If Ronaldo does leave for Lazio or Juventus, a big-name replacement will be essential, as much for Barcelona's internal politics as on the field.

But if Barcelona's interest is understandable, there seems little possibility of Newcastle allowing Shearer to go. Although he was Kevin Keegan's last, and at £15 million his biggest, signing last summer, Shearer has a long-standing relationship with Dalglish. Although Dalglish is expected to make some significant changes in personnel in the summer, he is likely to see Shearer as central to his plans for rebuilding Newcastle.

Shearer has three years remaining of the four-year contract he signed when he arrived from Blackburn Rovers last August so there is no pressure on Newcastle to sell. Quite the contrary, in fact, as Shearer's return to his home city was greeted on Tyneside as the return of the Messiah and the Toot Army would revolt en masse at any suggestion of their hero being allowed to depart.

He made his comeback after his third groin operation inside a year in the FA Carling Premiership derby with Sunderland on Saturday, scoring Newcastle's equaliser in the 1-1 draw. He is still Newcastle's leading scorer, in spite of missing two months of the season with injuries.

Since their days together at Blackburn, Dalglish has been among Shearer's greatest admirers and will clearly do everything in his power to retain the England striker.

Barcelona's reported £20 million bid suggests that Newcastle's payment of £15 million last year was not as unreasonably high as thought at the time and, given the present inflated state of the market, an increased offer may be the only lever to prize Shearer away. With Newcastle in the process of floating on the stock market, every one of their assets must have a price and, if the Spanish club was to return with a better offer, there would be greater pressure to sell.

Shearer's vulnerability to injury, with three groin operations in just over 12 months, could persuade Newcastle to cash in but, unless the fee Barcelona receive for Ronaldo reaches absurd proportions, that seems unlikely.

Unlike, the way the market is going. Yesterday, Real Madrid moved to protect their greatest asset, Raul Gonzalez, by giving him a new seven-year £2 million-a-year contract and by writing in to it a transfer fee of £42 million.

Vialli's future, page 44  
Joy for Fulham, page 44



José María Olazábal, of Spain, straps his finger before beginning his practice round at Augusta National as he prepares for the Masters, his first major since his long injury break from golf, which begins today. Report, page 46. Photograph: Lenny Igoe

## Hick intent on regaining Test place

By Our Sports Staff

GRAEME HICK has been tipped to regain his place in the England side against Australia this summer by David Houghton, the Worcestershire coach, who acted in the same capacity for Zimbabwe during the winter when they beat England in the one-day international series.

He believes Hick has regained his hunger for the game after a six-month break after being overlooked for England's winter tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand.

"Graeme was in fine form on our pre-season trip to Zimbabwe and everything I have seen of him so far smacks of determination," Houghton said yesterday.

"He has got himself super fit and now there is the desire to put runs on the board again. The break from the game has been good because now he wants to spend time at the crease."

"I told him at the end of last season to lock his bat away in the cupboard and not to pick it up for six months. Maybe, sometimes, a little boredom creeps in when you are playing all the year round, but that isn't there this year because he has a specific aim — to get back into the England side."

Houghton, 39, who said that he believed that Hick was still the best batsman available to England, has been asked to reconsider his decision to retire from Test cricket by the Zimbabwe selectors. They

want him to continue to play a role by helping to consolidate recent successes, which include a drawn Test series with England. "I wasn't having second thoughts, but the Zimbabwean Board are looking at the fact that we've had a good season in which we've won a lot of matches and are starting to get onto a roll," Houghton said.

"We've quite a competitive side and they... would like me to play on a little bit longer just to help maintain the current momentum."

"I'm not under contract to Zimbabwe any more and it is really a case of seeing how I feel around August time and whether I want to play again. The enthusiasm level is still quite high, although it dulls

when you have to spend 2½ days in the field. Fortunately, we didn't have too many of those last winter."

"I still feel I can do a job in the Tests, coming in at five or six and putting some experience in the middle order, but I don't think I should be playing one-day cricket."

"I tried to convince them to leave me out because I'm not up to the physical demands any more, but they still kept picking me."

Houghton is waiting to hear if he will be required again by his country in a coaching capacity and admitted that the fact he was still playing made for a difficult situation. "It put a lot of extra pressure on me and it is difficult for the captain in having the coach on

the field. Where does the chain of command end?" he said.

"I'm in charge in the dressing-room, but once we cross onto the pitch the captain is in charge. But if something goes wrong, should I take over from him or leave him to make mistakes? Fortunately, we have grown up as a team and it was able to work quite well, but I'm not sure if it would on a permanent basis. I think the coach has got to be off the park."

"I don't know if the Zimbabwe Board are going to re-appoint me, but I was very surprised that they did not talk to me before I left home to come back to Worcestershire."

Atherton called, page 42  
Scotland lose, page 42

## Murray and McCann lead chairmen in division lobby

By Our Sports Staff

THE prospect of a Premiership in Scotland, based upon the FA Carling Premiership in England, came a step closer when chairmen from the ten premier division clubs voted against recommendations for a proposed restructured League of 16, 12 and 12 clubs next season.

The plan to change the present system, in which teams are divided into four divisions of ten, in favour of a 16-team top division was originally put forward by Jack Steadman, of Clydebank, three months ago but is certain to fail. David Murray, chairman of Rangers, and his counterpart at Celtic, Fergus McCann, are also looking at change and will meet on a regular basis to discuss the initiative's progress.

"The premier division clubs have engaged independent professional advisers and a further statement will be issued after the next meeting."

The Scottish League management committee are due to meet in Glasgow today and will confirm the end of the 16-12-12 proposal put forward by Steadman. The proposal was due to be voted upon by all clubs at the Scottish League annual general meeting, at the end of next month, but will now not even reach that stage.

Scotland and Wales are to meet for the first time since the World Cup qualifier in 1985. They will play at Rugby Park, Kilmarnock, on May 27. The last time the two teams met was at Ninian Park, Cardiff, the match ended in a 1-1 draw and Scotland qualified for the finals in Mexico.

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## Rafter apologises for drinking lapse



Rafter: regretful

A REMORSEFUL Patrick Rafter yesterday apologised for playing a Davis Cup match for Australia last weekend while still affected by alcohol.

Australian newspapers on Monday reported that Rafter, the world No 43, and Mark Philippoussis went to a nightclub in Adelaide on Saturday to celebrate taking a 3-0 winning lead over the Czech Republic in their Davis Cup world group quarter-final.

Rafter admitted that he was still feeling the effects of drink during his reverse singles match on Sunday. "I'm glad you brought that up," Rafter said, when asked

about the incident after his 2-6, 7-6, 6-4, win over Mark Woodforde, his compatriot and Davis Cup team-mate, in the first round of the Hong Kong Open yesterday.

"It is totally my fault. I think the one regret I do have is giving children the wrong impression of using alcohol to win matches or be a good athlete. You just cannot do it."

Rafter, whose two singles victories against the Czechs had helped Australia to a 5-0 win and a place in the semi-finals against United States, added: "It was a rare occasion for me to go out and celebrate like that."

semi-final in September could be Michael Chang, the top seed in Hong Kong, who sailed into the second round with a 6-0, 6-1 win over Melvin Tong, a wild-card entrant from Hong Kong.

Chang did not feature in United States' quarter-final win over Holland at the weekend, but said he was open to approaches for the semi-final. "As far as the semi-final is concerned, it will be hard to overlook Jim Courier for the first singles spot," Chang said. "As far as the second singles is concerned, I am sure Tom Gullikson [the US Davis Cup captain] will be getting in touch."

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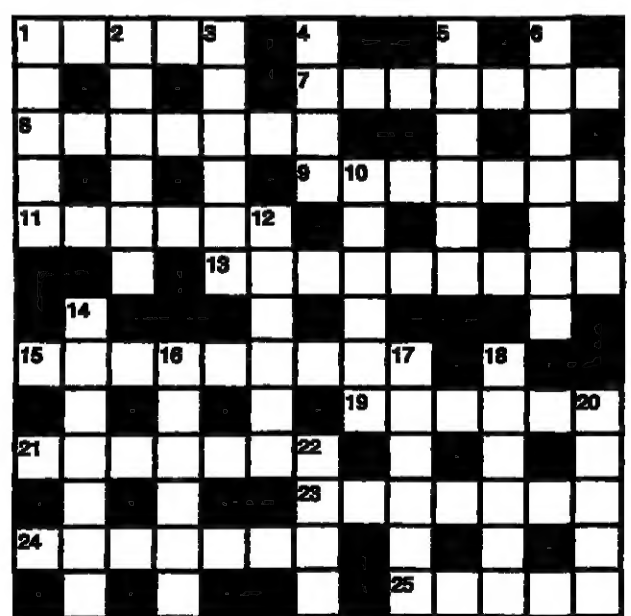
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## TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1064 in association with  
BRITISH MIDLAND



## ACROSS

- Laid with flags (5)
- Anointing with oil; suave charm (7)
- St. Francis's espoused Lady (7)
- City of oranges, of Barber (7)
- Runner-up's place (6)
- Try anyway (4,2,1,2)
- Wrinkles by eyes (5,4)
- Animal that gnaws (6)
- Acrobat's garment (7)
- Intuitive sympathy (7)
- Portable rocket-launcher (7)
- Girls' toys (5)

## DOWN

- Samuel —, diarist (5)
- Briskly (mus.) (6)
- Boldness (6)
- Ropes; London hospital (4)
- Rigorous (6)
- Art assembled and glued (7)
- Eng. city, sounds like one leaving (6)
- Disagree (6)
- A club; a weapon-store (7)
- Moist-timber disease (3,3)
- Sluggish, dormant (6)
- Flinch, start back (6)
- NT book; Roman emperor (5)
- Haut; a bore (4)

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Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

Name/Address

## SOLUTION TO NO 1063

ACROSS: 1 False start 8 Alimony 9 Fugio 10 Tang  
11 Plaintiff 13 Such as 15 Status 17 Complain 18 Gals  
21 Aloud 22 Thought 23 Sportsport  
DOWN: 2 Align 3 Slow 4 Scylla 5 Affinity 6 Torrent  
7 Contestant 8 Antisocial 12 Palladio 14 Commons  
16 Listel 19 Augur 20 Coup